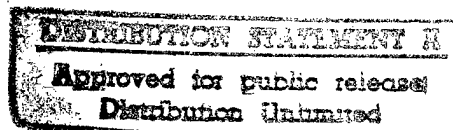


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JPRS-UAG-84-047

31 December 1984



USSR Report

AGRICULTURE

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31 December 1984

USSR REPORT

AGRICULTURE

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MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

SUGAR BEET HARVEST PREPARATIONS IN BELORUSSIAN SSR DISCUSSED

Minsk SEL'SKAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Sep 84 p 1

/Article by V.V. Radchenko, 1st deputy minister of the food industry for the Belorussian SSR: "From the Fields To the Plant"/

/Text/ The busy season is commencing for workers attached to the republic's sugar industry -- the acceptance and processing of the sweet roots. What sort of a beet crop has ripened out on the fields? How well prepared are the enterprises for processing it? These and other questions posed by a correspondent of SEL'SKAYA GAZETA are answered in this article by the 1st deputy minister of the food industry for the BSSR, V.V. Radchenko.

The beet procurement plan for the 1984 crop calls for the republic's sugar plants to be supplied with 1,280,000 tons. This includes: for the Skidel Sugar Combine -- more than 229,000 tons, Gorodeya -- 291,000, Slutsk -- 303,000 and the Zhabinka Sugar Plant -- 457,000 tons of sweet roots. Towards this end, sugar beets were sown on 531,500 hectares at kolkhozes and sovkhoses. In accordance with the results of an inspection of sowings on test plots, the status of the crop is characterized by the following indicators: weight of a root 376, weight of its haulm 358 grams and a sugar content of more than 15 percent.

It bears mentioning that by 20 September of this year, all of the republic's sugar procurement plants and combines had been accepted by state committees following the carrying out of repair work, with such work having been carried out in a timely and high quality manner. At the present time, the enterprises are fully prepared for processing the beets of the new crop.

A number of innovations have been introduced in the interest of improving the acceptance, storage and processing of the sweet roots. In particular, more than 45 units of new and progressive items of technological equipment have been installed. A diffurgon unit at the Skidel Sugar Combine has been replaced, vacuum-filters and pulp-squeezing presses at the Gorodeya and Slutsk sugar combines and beet scales at the Zhabinks Sugar Plant. A circulating system for transport-washing water is being placed in operation at the Gorodeya Sugar Combine.

Measures have been implemented directed towards lowering the consumption of conventional fuel, electric power and auxiliary production materials. This year the strengthening of the logistical base for beet receiving points at rayon centers and at kolkhozes and sovkhoses will be continued. Thus, 15 additional clamp forming machines and 18 tractor loaders have been procured and 42,000 square meters of hard surface platform space have been built for the storage of beets. Two mechanized lines for determining the degree of contamination of the raw materials have been installed and added to the existing ones. The acceptance and storage of beets will be carried out at 17 beet receiving points.

Special attention is being given to reducing losses in the crops grown and to increasing the sugar yield from each hectare of the beet fields.

Towards this end, the specialists attached to the sugar plants and beet receiving points carried out an extensive pre-harvest inspection of the sugar beet plantings in early September. Based upon the data obtained from this inspection, the farms were provided with recommendations on the periods for harvesting and shipping the roots.

A definite amount of work has been carried out and is being carried out in connection with improving the storage technology. This year the plans call for 245,000 tons of beets to be stored in clamps with forced ventilation, for 120,000 tons to be treated with biologically active substances which delay the sprouting of the roots and for 200,000 tons of beets to be covered with foam plastic.

In order to ensure that the processing enterprises have a good workload in the form of raw materials from the new crop, the plans call for the harvesting and deliveries of beets from kolkhozes and sovkhoses to be carried out in the middle of September. For this the procurement organizations will make payment for the products at raised rates. The harvesting of sugar beets has been organized well on a number of farms in Zhabinkovskiy, Slutskiy, Grodnenskiy rayons; the kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Berestovitskiy, Soligorskiy, Ivatsevichskiy and Shchuchinskiy rayons have been very slow in delivering their sweet roots.

A maximum amount of sugar with minimal losses can be obtained only on the basis of joint efforts by all workers assigned to the agroindustrial complex and the food industry. The problem at the present time consists of carrying out the various types of work during the best agrotechnical periods and in a high quality manner.

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MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

MINSK OBLAST BEET HARVEST PROBLEMS REVIEWED

Minsk SEL'SKAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Oct 84 p 1

/Article: "To Accelerate Operations Out On the Beet Fields"

/Text/ A fine sugar beet crop is on hand this year. According to estimates, the gross yields of the sweet roots will make it possible to ensure not only the fulfillment of the 1984 plan, but in addition they will bring about a noticeable reduction in the shortfall in product deliveries which has developed since the beginning of the five-year plan. Thus there is no more important task for the republic's beet growers at the present time than that of harvesting the crop on a high quality basis and without losses and shipping the root crops to the receiving points of the sugar plants in a timely manner. Many farms and rayons are harvesting and selling their sugar beets to the state in a more organized manner than has been the case in past years. On farms in Klet'skiy Rayon, more than one half of the areas have already been harvested. This work is being carried out at a high tempo in Uzdenskiy, Soligorskiy, Slutskiy, Nesvizhskiy and Zhabinkovskiy rayons.

At the Kolkhoz imeni Kalinin in Nesvizhskiy Rayon, the flow line-transshipment method of harvesting has proven its worth in recent years. All of the harvesting complexes have joined in the operations at kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Slutskiy Rayon, at the kolkhozes imeni Lenin and Belarus' and the Gorodeyskiy Sovkhoz in Nesvizhskiy Rayon, at the kolkhozes Pobeda, Put' K Kommunizmu and imeni Den'shchikov in Grodnenskiy Rayon and Dubno and Druzhba in Mostovskiy Rayon and at many others.

At the same time, notwithstanding the availability of an adequate quantity of technical equipment, the harvesting rates on the whole remain low. According to the situation on 14 October, only 48.6 percent of the sugar beets in the republic had been harvested, including 33.4 percent at kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Grodno Oblast. The farms in Kamenetskiy, Ivatsevichskiy, Stolinskiy and Stolbtsovskiy have harvested less than one fifth of their plantings and the beet growers in Shchuchinskiy and Volkovysskiy rayons have only just commenced this work.

Since the very first days, discrepancies have been noted in the harvest production line. At the Belarus', Pobeda and imeni Kirov kolkhozes in Pinskiy Rayon, the highly productive KS-6 and RKS-6 machines are being used for digging up the root crops, with the harvesting and loading into transport vehicles being

carried out manually; this is lowering productivity considerably and holding back the work rates. There have also been instances of low quality equipment preparation. Thus, at the Kolkhoz Bol'shevik in Ivanovskiy Rayon, a harvesting complex broke down on the very day that it was moved out onto the field.

The leaders and specialists in a number of areas are overlooking the problem of quality. Reliable preparation of the tracts for combine harvesting has not been organized in all areas. At the Za Mir Kolkhoz in Ivanovskiy Rayon, a twin-shaft cleaner, owing to a high degree of weediness in the plantings and a high cutting for the haulm, is not ensuring the required machine cleaning for the roots and thus the roots must be reprocessed manually. The timely picking up of the root crops after the combines have passed had not been organized at a majority of the farms checked and this leads to considerable losses in the crops grown: scattered about a field and not picked up by a unit, the root crops can amount to a loss of 8 percent of the bulk during a 24 hour period.

The shipping of the products to the beet receiving points of sugar plants should be carried out simultaneously with harvesting the crop, such that there will be fewer losses of the sweet roots caused by above-normal storage in undersize field clamps. Unfortunately however, the same mistakes are being repeated from year to year. During the initial period of the sugar beet harvest, insufficient vehicles are made available for transporting them. And when the work rates are accelerated and an increase takes place in the volume of beets dug up, the beets are stored for a considerable period of time in open field clamps, thus losing up to 0.8-1 percent of their weight daily. Many beets have accumulated on the fields of kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Berezovskiy, Kobrinskiy, Ivanovskiy, Luninetskiy, Berestovitskiy and Grodnenskiy rayons: from here, less than one fourth of the beets dug up have been shipped to the receiving points.

In addition to the harvest operations, every attempt should be made to accelerate the shipping of the beets to the receiving points of the sugar plants, to display greater concern for reducing losses during storage and to preventing a deterioration from taking place in the quality of the raw materials.

The kolkhoz and sovkhos leaders and specialists must display greater concern for efficient work organization and for the judicious use of mechanized equipment, so as to ensure that the rates for harvesting the sweet roots are intensified to the maximum possible degree.

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CSO: 1824/070

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

MEASURES FOR REDUCING SUGAR BEET LOSSES DURING HARVEST OPERATIONS

Minsk SEL'SKAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Oct 84 p 2

/Article by V. Marmalyukov, senior scientific worker at the Central Scientific Research Institute of Rural Mechanization and Electrification of the Non-Black Earth Belt of the USSR and A. Karchevskiy, chief of the Department of Technical Crops of the Belorussian Ministry of Agriculture: "A Reliable Barrier Against Sugar Beet Losses"

/Text The data obtained from an inspection of the plantings and the growth dynamics of the sugar beets reveal that at the present time the weight of a root is somewhat lower than that for last year. However, the favorable conditions for accumulating weight and sugar in the root crops during September are making it possible to achieve the yields originally planned.

Success in this work is now dependent upon the final stage of the harvest campaign and upon the timely and high quality harvesting and shipping of the root crops to the receiving points of the sugar plants.

The introduction of the industrial technology for cultivating sugar beets and the equipping of the farms with 6-row complexes of BM-6A, RKS-6 and KS-6 harvesting machines and also SPS-4.2 loaders has made it possible to raise labor productivity during harvest operations by a factor of 1.5-1.8. However, losses in the biological yield caused by inadequate technological adjustment of the machines amount to an average of 10 percent.

The basis for reducing losses and raising the quality of mechanized harvesting operations must be that of carrying out the agrotechnical requirements. The cutting down of the haulm using a BM-6A machine must be carried out in a manner such that the beet raw materials can be delivered to the plant with no manual cleaning and with a degree of impurities in the fodder of not more than 3 percent and precisely: the plane of the cut must pass no lower than the level of the lower leaf stalks and no higher than 20 millimeters from the top of the head of the root crop;

The waste scraps from the heads of root crops must not exceed 5 percent of the bulk.

In 1983 the Ternopol Combine Plant mastered the production of twin-shaft OGE cleaners, used for cleaning the heads of roots after they have been cut down by a BM-6A machine. The cleaner, which weighs 730 kilograms, is ganged separately with an MTZ-80/82 tractor. The leading shaft cleans the root heads

and removes them from the row zone to the harvested field, while the rear shaft with its hinged beater plates rotates in the opposite direction and cleans the root heads of haulm in areas which are inaccessible to the leading shaft.

Tests carried out on the twin-shaft cleaner at the Kolkhoz imeni Den'shchikov in Grodnenskiy Rayon and at the Ganusovo Goskhoz in Nesvizhskiy Rayon have shown that it ensures high quality cleaning of the root crops from haulm residue, provided there is a normal or raised cutting height for the BM-6A machine and a speed of movement of 5-6 kilometers per hour.

In the case of mass mechanized harvesting operations, the principal methods must be flow-line or flow-line transshipment, without manual cleaning of the root crops and with group use of the equipment as part of the harvesting-transport detachments. The work is organized in a manner such that all of the beets harvested are shipped to a beet point within a matter of 1-2 days.

It should be remembered that root crops which are placed in clamps and left for a period of 24 hours lose from 0.8 to 1.4 percent of their weight and root crops which are scattered about a field and not collected up by the harvesting units -- 8 percent of their weight. It has been established that crop losses are observed not only during the operation of the extractive and separating working organs, but also during the course of repeated trans-shipments, with the root crops falling to the ground and consequently being lost. Thus, in order to reduce the crop losses, there must be more elevators for the root harvesting machines and the loaders must be equipped with the means for suppressing the speed of fall of the root crops in the form of rubber covers, such that the drop height for the root crops does not exceed one half meter.

When harvesting beets using the trans-shipment method (raised soil moisture content, insufficient transport vehicles), the root crops are placed in clamps on specially prepared platforms located alongside hard surface roads. When placed on an unprepared platform, with subsequent loading carried out using an SPS-4.2 unit, the root crop losses increase by a factor of 2-3 and reach 4.3 percent.

Harvesting-transport detachments must become the principal form for labor organization during harvest operations. The beet harvesting units operate on the same field, each on its own plot. A team consisting of 3-5 individuals, equipped with transport means, picks up the root crops following each pass by a harvesting unit.

On each farm, an order is issued by the sovkhos director or a decision is handed down by the kolkhoz administration tasking a responsible worker (agronomist, engineer) with organizing the sugar beet harvesting and shipping operations.

Operational groups are being created in the agricultural administrations of oblast executive committees with responsibility for the harvesting and procurements of sugar beets.

The farm leaders and specialists must remember that the conditions for carrying out high quality tending and harvesting of the beets include soil cultivation and sowing operations. In the autumn, after organic fertilizer has been applied

and autumn plowing carried out in behalf of the beets, it is recommended that the herbicide TKhAN be applied in a dosage of 30-40 kilograms per hectare of Dalapon -- 15-20 kilograms per hectare. Fine results are also being obtained from subsequent cultivation of the soil according to the type of bastard fallow.

The carrying out of the mentioned complex of preparatory operations, the correct technological adjustment and operation of the machines and proper personnel training will make it possible to lower crop losses during mechanized harvesting operations to 3 percent.

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CSO: 1824/070

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

HIGH SUGAR BEET YIELD IN LIPETSK OBLAST DISCUSSED

Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 Oct 84 p 1

/Article by V. Demin, Lipetsk Oblast/

/Text/ The eastern sky was just beginning to show a tinge of pink, although it was somewhat dark and hazy in the copses. But trucks loaded with sugar beets were already moving along the roads. The yields being obtained on the sugar beet plantations were greater than they had been in many years. Lev-Tolstovskiy and Dankovskiy rayons were the first to fulfill their plans for selling this valuable technical crop to the state. They were immediately followed by Yeletskiy Rayon.

"This was the direct result of a higher level of agricultural practice" stated the 1st secretary of the Yeletskiy Rayon Party Committee P.T. Gorlov, "The following alternation of fields in a crop rotation plan has become the rule in our rayon: fallow -- winter crops -- sugar beets. More than 7 percent of the fallow land is set aside for fallow. More extensive use is being made of the industrial technology. We are persistently introducing the experience of fellow countrymen, eminent Dobrinka machine operators and recipients of the USSR State Prize, the brothers Nikolay and Valentin Sinyachkin, who are growing beets with no manual labor expenditures. It is no shame to learn from them and we bring our beet growers to them so that they can become familiar with all of the intricacies of the work. And what were the results of these lessons in the field? Whereas in previous years the production cost for a quintal of beets at a number of farms was 9-10 and at times 11 rubles, that is, greater than the plan by a factor of two, today it is lower than the assigned figure. In particular, a great savings was realized by virtue of the fact that one half of the crop was delivered to the plant with no manual cleaning of the roots."

Use of the industrial technology was promoted to a considerable degree by the introduction of the collective contract. Here complex brigades are being assigned responsibility not for just one field but rather for an entire crop rotation plan and also for the final results of common labor. They are presently cultivating one half of all of the arable land, including two thirds of the beet plantations. The best brigades of Ivan Fedorovich Borisov of the "Mayevka," A.S. Myagkov of the "Yeletskiy," I.D. Shchekin of the "Iskra," and N.F. Poddubniy of the "Svetliy Put'" have exceeded the planned yields by almost twofold.

The present harvest campaign has uncovered a number of shortcomings. At the Yeletskiy Sugar Plant, they were aware that there would be many more beets than usual and yet the capability of the beet receiving points was increased only negligibly. The plants lack a sufficient number of side dumpers for unloading the trucks. The clamp forming machines are not operating in an efficient manner. All of this led to motor vehicle idle time. The drivers are losing 2-3 hours while standing in line waiting to be unloaded. At the same time, there is a shortage of transport vehicles. At times, several thousands of tons of the roots accumulate out on the fields during a day's time.

"If better preparations had been made at the plants for the sugar refining season, we would have better indicators. Nevertheless, the oblast is already near completing its task for delivering sugar beets in behalf of this year's plan: against a plan calling for 1,700,000 tons, the receiving points have already been supplied with 1,656,000 tons" stated the deputy chief of the oblast's agricultural administration A.N. Yezhov, "This year's yield is the highest in 18 years -- more than 175 quintals per hectare. The greatest success was achieved by the beet growers in Dankovskiy, Volovskiy, Lev-Tolstovskiy, Stanovlyanskiy and Yeletskiy rayons: they are obtaining 209-230 quintals of the sweet roots per hectare."

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CSO: 1824/071

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

SUGAR BEET DEVELOPMENT, HARVEST PROGRESS IN CENTRAL CHERNOZEM ZONE

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 12 Oct 84 p 2

/Article by A. Trubnikov, Belgorod - Voronezh - Kursk oblasts: "Down To the Last Root Crop"/

/Text/ The beet crop is being grown on 770,000 hectares in the Central Chernozem Zone. This constitutes one half of all sowings of this valuable technical crop in the Russian Federation. The farmers are striving to complete the harvesting work with out losses and to deliver the root crops to the sugar plants.

The initial days of the mass digging up of sugar beets in Belgorod Oblast are recalled. Reports have been received from a majority of the rayons regarding a high level of technological discipline out on the fields. And yet an alarming signal was received from Gubkinskiy Rayon: here the actual yield was 34 quintals less than the biological yield. A group of specialists headed by the deputy chief of the Sakhsvekla Association P. Plyasetskiy departed for the site immediately. For a week's time they moved about the fields, uncovering the reasons for the losses and taking steps aimed at eliminating them. At the Skorodnyanskiy Sovkhoz, for example, they took note of the fact that the haulm harvesting machines were cutting up to one fourth of the large root crops. To varying degrees, similar violations were detected on other farms.

Engineering-technical workers from farms and raysel'khoshtekhnika furnished assistance to the machine operators in adjusting the BM-6 haulm-harvesting machines. The cutting level of the machines was set higher. According to estimates, this measure increases the output yield by 8-10 quintals per hectare and in combination with the gathering up of lost root crops -- up to 20 or more quintals. As a result of thorough adjusting of the root-harvesting machines, success was achieved in preventing losses and reducing damage to the beets. Control was exercised over the carrying out of the technical operations. And the difference between the actual and biological yields was reduced to a minimum.

In view of the lessons learned last year, when an acceleration in the digging up rates during the warm weather led to a reduction in the quality of the raw materials, this year greater control is being exercised over the digging up and transporting of the root crops. Efficient measures are being taken to shorten the length of time between the digging up and transporting of the roots, which earlier amounted to 24 hours. However, a one and a half day's supply of beets

waiting to be transported has formed on kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Korochanskiy Rayon. The reasons for this have been uncovered here: clods of dirt accumulated in the heap owing to the dry weather and the beet workers fell behind in carrying out their cleaning and sorting work. They received assistance from their Belgorod patrons and everything returned to normal again. In order to achieve this goal in Valuyskiy Rayon, the extraction process had to be halted. In other areas the shipping operations began to fall behind owing to fault on the part of the transport subunits. In such instances, measures were undertaken to reduce the idle time of the motor vehicles waiting to be loaded or unloaded, either for technical reasons or while waiting for additional transport equipment to be made available.

The Kursk beet growers are almost on a par with the Belgorod growers. Here the sugar beets have been planted on 190,000 hectares -- more than in any other oblast in the Central Chernozem Zone, with the exception of Voronezh Oblast.

"This year our beet growers have for all practical purposes completely eliminated the losses in crops" stated the chairman of the Rodina Kolkhoz in Sovetskiy Rayon V. Reprintsev, "Distinct from past years, the picking up of lost root crops is being carried out simultaneously with the digging up work: the beet growers throw them into the hopper while proceeding alongside the combine."

It should be added that the field team leaders thoroughly regulate the haulm harvesting machines before moving out onto each plot and they carry out checks on the haulm cutting operation throughout the entire day. And this is of great importance when one takes into account the low reliability of this equipment. The beet harvesting machines are adjusted depending upon the condition of the fields. In view of the high yields, which reaches 400 quintals per hectare, they are operated at a low speed.

The kolkhoz chairman singled out in particular the diligence displayed by the beet loader machinists A. Reprintsev, N. Fedorinov and V. Nosov. They carry out their work paying no attention to the time and they have not caused one machine to lie idle. The farm was the first in the oblast to fulfill its plan for selling beets and it now plans to exceed this plan by one and a half times. The beet growers at the kolkhozes Trud, Put' K Kommunizmu, imeni Lenin and other farms in Sovetskiy Rayon have also organized their work in the same manner, without losses.

After fulfilling their planned tasks for procuring the sugar raw materials, many kolkhozes and sovkhoses are nonetheless continuing to ship the root crops. Moral and material incentives are being employed in an efficient manner throughout the entire length of the production line -- from field to plant. Additional payments and monetary bonuses are being issued to the leading figures in the digging up and shipping operations.

"Our drivers have as their slogan -- not to leave the cabin of their motor vehicles before having over-fulfilled their norm by 15-20 percent" stated the director of a detachment of drivers at the Leningrad Association No. 1 for Inter-City Shipments V. Shuvalov. And their diligence is not passing unnoticed.

The beets are being harvested in a thorough manner in Voronezh Oblast. On a majority of the farms, the fields are being accepted only after replowing has been carried out and all of the scattered root crops have been gathered up.

Nevertheless, the overall favorable figures do in fact conceal many serious shortcomings in the organization of the harvesting work and in the shipping and storage of the sugar beets. Hundreds of thousands of tons of root crops have accumulated out on the fields of the TsChO /Central Chernozem Zone/. There have been frequent instances of equipment idle time and violations of labor discipline.

Checks carried out by the people's controllers and specialists attached to the agroprom service have revealed that large losses are being tolerated in many areas. For example, it has been revealed that the yield being obtained in Novooskolskiy Rayon in Belgorod Oblast is more than 40 quintals less per hectare than the amount actually grown. In Kursk Oblast, the gathering up of scattered root crops has not been organized on individual farms in Konyshvskiy and some other rayons. Nor have the farms in Voronezh Oblast been able to avoid losses. And is it really a normal situation for a considerably portion of the beets to be delivered to the plants with a raised level of weediness?

If these and other shortcomings are not overcome, it will be futile to expect good final results. It should also be borne in mind that up until recently the harvest work has been carried out mainly under favorable weather conditions. If rain and cold snaps become the order of the day in the near future, the work out on the beet fields will become sharply more complicated.

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CSO: 1824/071

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

UDC 633.63

SUGAR BEET PRODUCTION IN LIPETSK OBLAST

Krasnodar SEL'SKIYE ZORI in Russian No 9, Sep 84 pp 30-31

[Article by N. Minakov, doctor of agricultural sciences and chief of a section at the Central Chernozem Branch of VNIETUSKh; V. Griбанov, chief of the Lipetsk Oblast Grain Products Administration; V. Kolesnikov, chief of the Lipetsk Association for Sugar Beet Seed Production; B. Merkulov and I. Popov, scientific workers at the Central Chernozem Branch of VNIETUSKh: "Intensification and the Return From It"/

[Text] Over the past few years, substantial changes have taken place in agriculture in Lipetsk Oblast, including in the production of sugar beets. It has entered a new phase in its development. The branch is actively engaged in converting over to an industrial basis. Under these conditions, the chief factor with regard to the development of the agrarian sector is that of intensification. Generally speaking, it is characterized by the following indicators: its developmental process, results and effectiveness. Each of these indicators defines the problem in its own particular way, with the two latter ones being of the greatest importance. Moreover, they are so closely interrelated that they should ideally be examined together.

The results of agricultural production are understood to include the volume, structure and quality of output. Here the yield for a particular crop is considered to be the final result. The systematic reduction in sugar beet yield, which amounted to 86 quintals for 1981-1982, underscores the low effectiveness of sugar beet production. This is borne out by the value indicators: the gross output value per hectare for the oblast during the 10th Five-Year Plan decreased from 533 to 348 rubles compared to the 8th Five-Year Plan and gross income -- accordingly from 348 to 115 rubles, or by a factor of almost 3; many farms are not realizing any net income, with beet production becoming unprofitable for them.

Labor productivity in beet production throughout the central chernozem region as a whole shows a tendency towards increasing. However, the gross output volume produced during 1 man-hour in Lipetsk Oblast has decreased in the majority of instances, while labor expenditures for 1 quintal of output has increased by 22 percent. All of this has adversely affected the overall level of effectiveness of sugar beet cultivation in the central chernozem region.

The production costs for beet production have increased by more than twofold over the past 15 years. The increase in overall costs has taken place mainly

as a result of expenses for fertilizer, the amortization of productive capital, the acquisition of modern equipment with considerable increases having taken place in the prices for such equipment, increased costs for the servicing of equipment and other factors.

Maximum production intensification for agriculture is of paramount importance in the central chernozem region, since the plowing up of land here reaches 81 percent. Its logistical basis -- scientific-technical progress and the principal indicator -- the level of intensification, determined by the total amount of fixed productive capital and current production expenditures per hectare of sowing. During the 8th Five-Year Plan it equalled 637 rubles in Lipetsk Oblast and during 1981-1982 -- 1,644 rubles.

The increasing level of intensification in beet production has affected the capital supply and capital-labor ratio to a substantial degree and this has resulted in a more complete and timely carrying out of technological operations and improvements in the technologies themselves; during this period the workload per worker in Lipetsk Oblast increased from 5.6 to 9.3 hectares and it decreased per sowing machine, thinning unit and combine (from 74, 211 and 62 to 48, 160 and 40 hectares respectively); a substantial increase took place in the proportion of areas harvested using combines and the flow line-transshipment method (from 81.1 and 4.9 to 99.3 and 48.2 percent respectively).

However the growth in capital-labor ratio was not accompanied by an increase in output yield. A disparity developed between the concentration of investments and the return, between capital supply and the output-capital ratio and between additional investments and increased output. Certainly, certain objective conditions were responsible for this. But it is obvious that their existence can in no way justify the inefficient use of production resources. The difference in final results which is observed in groups of farms having different capital-labor ratios indicates that the beet growing farms have tremendous reserves at their disposal.

The chief reason for a low return from additional investments lies in the fact that sugar beet production has still not been converted over to scientific intensification. Its development is being carried out not on the basis of qualitative improvements in all of its aspects, but rather mainly on the basis of a quantitative saturation with the means of production wherein, according to K. Marx, an expansion takes place "only in the field of production."

Thus the effectiveness of intensification in the beet branch must be raised decisively

Many opportunities are available here. The principal task consists of improving the use of land substantially, mastering scientifically sound farming systems and raising the fertility of the soil and the root crop yields.

Special attention must be given to optimizing the fixed productive capital and carrying out improvements in their structure and in the use of the machine-tractor pool. Capital investments for the acquisition of machines should be invested first of all not in their replacement but rather in their renovation with due consideration being given to the latest scientific and engineering

achievements. For example, the plow for the T-150M tractor was developed for considerable speed and yet the engine does not have sufficient power for turning over the bed; the sowing machines do not ensure uniform seed distribution and imperfections in the design of the combines are lowering the quality of the harvest work. From 1972 to 1982 the annual and daily output per tractor at Lipetsk kolkhozes increased by only 7.8 and 11.4 percent and the coefficient for shift operations fell from 1.83 to 1.07. An unacceptable disproportion is being observed in the structure of existing equipment. The optimum ratio is 2.5-3.2 rubles worth of pull-type and attachable machines per ruble of tractor value. This is actually a 1:2 ratio. Very little electric power is consumed.

In actual practice, this leads to a considerable dragging out of the schedules for carrying out field operations: sowing, tending the crops, harvest work, shipping and processing the crop. As a result, there is a considerable shortfall in output and a deterioration in the quality and effectiveness of production.

The use of chemical processes actively affects the fertility of land. However, the quantities of fertilizer being applied are still inadequate, especially organic fertilizers, with not more than 2-4 tons being applied per hectare. Moreover, the structure of the fertilizers leaves much to be desired. Owing to a shortage of herbicides and weak use of agrotechnical methods for combating weediness, the fields are becoming overrun with weeds.

It must be remembered that orientation towards the unilateral use in beet production of an increasing amount of energy may not produce success. Improvements in the effectiveness of intensification can be achieved not only by means of growth in capital availability but also on the basis of such factors as more complete use of the biological resources of the plants proper, the introduction of industrial technologies and intensive varieties, new crop rotation plan systems, improvements in the forms for labor organization and others.

Computations have shown that the sowing of regionalized varieties alone on the entire area, using seed characterized by high sowing qualities, can increase the gross yields of roots in Lipetsk Oblast by 500,000 quintals and lower considerably the expenditures for manual labor and production costs. In view of the dynamics of the harvest operations, it will be necessary to have varieties with different growing seasons: 10-15 percent early ripening, 55-65 -- midseason ripening and 25-35 percent -- late ripening varieties. This will affect substantially the quality of the raw materials and the production profitability.

Many opportunities are to be found in the organization of production. An analysis of the distribution of the raw material zones for the sugar plants has shown that the radius for services is 80 or more kilometers. As a result, up to 30 percent of the raw materials are lost during storage, transporting and processing and if the delivery distance is increased from 30 to 60 kilometers, the expenditures per ton will increase from 2.01 to 2.62 rubles. Thus it is necessary to carry out intense branch and intra-branch specialization and to raise the concentration of beets to 15-18 and subsequently to 20-25 percent, with the sowings being concentrated around the sugar plants.

Thus growth in the effectiveness of this important branch can be ensured only through the use of an all-round approach, that is, with many factors being taken into consideration, and with the extensive introduction of scientific achievements and the experience of such farms as the Dobrinka kolkhozes imeni Chapayev and imeni Il'ich, which are obtaining stable yields of not less than 350 quintals of roots per hectare and at a production cost of not more than 3 rubles each.

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CSO: 1824/071

MAJOR CROP PROGRESS AND WEATHER REPORTING

BRIEFS

SUGAR BEET LOSSES--This year a fine sugar beet crop has developed on farms in the Central Chernozem Region. Motor vehicles loaded with the sweet roots are proceeding along the roads leading to the receiving points. Unfortunately, considerable root losses are occurring during the transport operations. Along the entire road leading from Voronezh to Kursk, the sugar beets can be seen lying along the side of the road and in the ditches. Large quantities of beets in particular are to be found along the Kursk sector of the road, which passes by the farms in Gorshechenskiy, Timskiy, Shchigrovskiy and other rayons in Kursk Oblast. We are convinced that the losses occur owing to the overloading of the vehicles with the raw materials. The farm and rayon leaders are motivated into shipping as much freight as possible on each trip. However, the sugar beets are loaded for the most part from the top into vehicles the sides of which have been built up. As a rule, three sides of the vehicles are built up, with the rear section remaining open. Herein lies the reason for the losses. It bears mentioning that weighing operations are not carried out in the areas where the beets are loaded into the vehicles. And thus nobody bears responsibility for losses which occur during the shipments. The amount that is delivered by a driver to the receiving point is the amount recorded in the invoice. /by N. Kozlov/ /Text/ /Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 42, Oct 84 p 16

BEET SALES TO STATE--Kursk, 22 Oct--The oblast's beet fields occupy approximately 190,000 hectares and a fine yield is being obtained from almost this entire area. This year the beet growers intend to sell not less than 3.6 million tons of the root crop and they will spare no effort in achieving this goal. The farmers in Sovetskiy, Oktyabrskiy, Kurskiy, Korenevskiy, Shchigrovskiy and other rayons are carrying out their harvesting and shipment work at a high tempo. More than 1.5 million tons of the raw materials have been delivered to the beet receiving points of the sugar plants. The kolkhozes Rodina in Sovetskiy Rayon, imeni Il'ch in Korenevskiy Rayon and Pobeditel' in Oktyabrskiy Rayon were the first to fulfill their plans for selling beets to the state. /by A. Trubnikov/ /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 23 Oct 84 p 1/ 7026

DIFFICULT WEATHER CONDITIONS--The expertise of the beet growers in Nizhnelovovskiy Rayon is increasing with each passing year. Despite the fact that industrial sugar beet production is a comparatively young culture on local farms, nevertheless many farms are obtaining high and stable yields. Even under the difficult weather conditions experienced this year, more than 200

quintals of root crops were obtained from each hectare of beet plantation here. This enabled the beet growers to complete their five year task for the sale of sugar beets one year earlier than called for. Typically, the five-year plan was fulfilled by all of the rayon's farms. /by A. Andreyev/ /Text/
/Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 23 Oct 84 p 1/ 7026

SEED PRODUCTION TASK FULFILLED--Orel--The collective of the Orlovskoye Association has fulfilled its task for the production of single-shoot beets. The seed yield obtained from the farm fields reached 18-20 quintals per hectare. The conversion over to the dense method for planting maternal roots, strict farm specialization, a high agrotechnical culture and the mechanization of labor-intensive processes -- such are the inputs for success at the Korotysk, Koz'minskiy, Oktyabr'skiy and Sudbishchenskiy sovkhoses. /Text/
/Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 10 Oct 84 p 1/ 7026

OBLAST BEET PLANTATIONS--Orel, 16 Oct--The beet plantations in Orel Oblast are the largest in the nonchernozem zone. They occupy almost 62,000 hectares. At the present time, the mass harvesting and processing of root crops is in progress here. The kolkhozes and sovkhoses are receiving a great amount of assistance in harvesting and transporting their crops from their reliable partners -- the enterprises of oblsel'khoztekhnika. Its specialists and repair workers have prepared more than 8,000 tractors and beet harvesting combines for operations. At the present time, more than 700 mobile items of equipment are engaged in providing services for the harvesting detachments and teams directly out on the fields. The workshops of technical service stations, exchange points, garages and supply bases are all operating in two shifts. For harvesting the beets, extensive use is being made of the progressive technology and also new forms for labor organization. Two hundred and thirty mechanized harvesting-transport complexes which operate on the basis of collective contracts have been created in the raysel'khoztekhnika organizations. The payments for their labor are carried out taking into account the coefficient for labor participation. Other measures for issuing material incentives for final results have also been defined. Based upon the example set in the Livenskiy Raysel'khoztekhnika, KS-6 and RKS-6 beet combines which were written off on the oblast's farms have been re-equipped to serve as beet loaders, which produce and clean the roots simultaneously. Sixteen transport detachments consisting of more than 430 motor vehicles with a raised freight carrying capability have been created for the purpose of transporting the sugar beets. All of this is making it possible for the farms to accelerate their work tempo and to raise the quality of the harvest operations. /by I. Mironov/ /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 10 Oct 84 p 1/ 7026

PROCUREMENT PLAN FULFILLED--Kazan', 8 Oct--The mechanized harvesting of sugar beets, without the manual cleaning of the root crops is being employed extensively by farmers in the Tatar ASSR. The flow line technology has won recognition at kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Zainskiy, Sarmanovskiy, Buinskiy and other rayons. Continuous operations along the "field-to-plant" route has made it possible for the beet growers in the autonomous republic to fulfill successfully their annual plan for procuring root crops. More than 740,000 tons of high quality raw materials have been shipped to the enterprises. All of the sugar plants are processing this material around-the-clock. /by V. Goncharov/ /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 10 Oct 84 p 1/ 7026

FINE ROOT CROP YIELD--Kursk, 23 Oct--The Kursk beet growers have achieved considerable success. Having countered the caprices of the weather with a high level of organizational ability and leading agrotechnical methods, they developed a fine yield of root crops and carried out the harvest work during the best periods. The plan for selling beets to the state was fulfilled, with the country being supplied with 3,600,000 tons of beets. The agricultural workers are continuing their deliveries of this crop. More than 100,000 additional tons of beets have already been delivered to the receiving points. In particular, a considerable contribution has been made by the beet growers in Korenevskiy, Oktyabrskiy, Sovetskiy, Kursk, Medvenskiy and a number of other rayons. /by A. Trubnikov/ /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 24 Oct 84 p 1/ 7026

ABOVE-PLAN BEET SALES--Tambov, 18 Sep--The beet growers in Staroyuryevskiy Rayon were aided by the collective contract in developing a rich yield and in harvesting it in an efficient manner. They have already fulfilled their plan -- they sold 62,000 tons of sugar beets to the state. At the present time, the farm workers are continuing their shock tempo and shipping their sweet root crops in behalf of raised obligations. According to estimates by specialists, they will sell approximately 7,000 tons of sugar beets over and above the plan. The farmers in Michurinskiy Rayon are also selling sugar beets over and above their plans. /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 19 Sep 84 p 1/ 7026

SUGAR BEET MASS HARVEST--Lipetsk--The harvesting-transport complexes of kolkhozes and sovkhoses in Lipetsk Oblast, which have commenced the mass harvesting of sugar beets, are relying upon the highly productive use of equipment and cost accounting operations. A leading technology and progressive labor organization have made it possible to develop a worthy yield. Having introduced the brigade contract into operations, the beet growers plan to complete their work in just 15 days. /Text/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 7 Sep 84 p 1/ 7026

INPUTS FOR SUCCESS--Lipetsk, 6 Oct--A high level of labor organization, the introduction of a leading technology and the expertise of the beet growers have made it possible to obtain a fine yield of root crops. The harvesting and shipping of the roots to the beet receiving points are being carried out in an efficient manner. The farms have already sold almost one and a half million tons of the sweet raw materials to the state. The beet growers in Volovskiy, Lev-Tolstovskiy, Dankovskiy, Yeletskiy, Lipetskiy, Krasninskiy and other rayons, all of whom have fulfilled their state procurement plans, are in the front ranks of the competitors. /by A. Katyalov/ /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 7 Oct 84 p 1/ 7026

BEET SALES CONTINUE--The agricultural workers in Kursk Oblast have shipped 3,600,000 tons of sweet roots to the state. This is the first time in many years that the oblast has reached this figure. In particular, the beet growers in Korenevskiy, Medvenskiy, Kurskiy, Sovetskiy and other rayons distinguished themselves. Many farms here obtained 300-400 quintals of root crops from each hectare. But the farmers of the Zarya Kommunizma Kolkhoz were especially successful; they achieved an unprecedented yield of beets -- 600 quintals per hectare. Here a fine example was set by a recipient of the USSR State Prize, tractor machinist V.V. Marchenko, who employed a number of leading work methods. The sale of sugar beets is continuing. /by V. Razboynikov/ /Text/ /Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 17 Oct 84/ 7026

BEET PRODUCTION PLAN--Minsk--The farms of Belorussia have formed more than 300 all-round technological detachments for the harvesting of sugar beets. This year the republic's beet growers have vowed to deliver more than 1.4 million tons of raw materials for processing -- considerably more than the quantity delivered last year. /Text/ /Moscow TRUD in Russian 16 Sep 84 p 1/ 7026

BEET TRANSPORT SCHEDULES--Kishinev, 2 Sep--The mass harvesting of sugar beets is in progress in Moldavia. This autumn the motor transport workers must transport considerably more of the output than was the case last year. The decision has been made to employ the same number of trucks for handling the increased volume of work. Hourly schedules developed for each motor vehicle for delivering the beets to the processing enterprises are ensuring efficient use of the transport equipment. These schedules were prepared on an EVM /electronic computer/, taking into account the rates for harvesting the crop on the farms and the availability of equipment for accepting the raw materials at the plants. /Text/ /Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 4 Sep 84 p 1/ 7026

LEADING TECHNOLOGY--Kishinev, 25 Sep--The Rybnitsa beet growers were some of the first in the republic to employ the progressive flow-line harvesting system. It makes it possible to avoid product losses which reach 15-20 percent when use is made of the conventional flow-line-transshipment method. Labor productivity increases considerably and there is less of a requirement for transport equipment. /by N. Marfin/ /Moscow TRUD in Russian 3 Oct 84 p 1/ 7026

BEET TRANSPORT OPERATIONS--Kishinev--The mass harvesting of sugar beets has commenced in Moldavia. This autumn the motor transport workers must transport considerably more output than was the case last year. The decision has been made to employ the same number of trucks for handling the increased volume of work. /Text/ /Moscow TRUD in Russian 3 Oct 84 p 1/ 7026

ACCORDING TO SCHEDULE--The mass harvesting of sugar beets has commenced throughout the republic and 2,000 more trucks have joined in the work. This autumn the motor transport workers must transport 250,000 more tons of the sweet roots than they did last year. The decision has been made to use the same number of transport vehicles for handling this increased volume of work. A "personal" hourly schedule developed for each motor vehicle for delivering the beets to the processing enterprises will ensure the efficient use of the equipment. These schedules were composed using an EVM /electronic computer/, with consideration being given to the crop harvesting rates on the farms and to

the pool of equipment available for accepting the raw materials at the plants. The strict observance of these schedules is being promoted by a system of material incentives for the drivers: for each trip completed within the established time, they receive a bonus in the amount of 20 percent of the value of the goods carried. A considerable expansion has taken place in the transporting of roots using the multiple-trailer method: the number of powerful machines operating with four trailers has increased three fold. The use of this transport equipment reduces the idle time of motor vehicles waiting to be unloaded and it accelerated the transport operations. A brigade at the Bendery Motor Vehicle Combine No.3, headed by F. Cheban, serves as a good example in this regard. This collective, after concluding an agreement with the Dondyushany Biruintsa Kolkhoz, resolved to transport 17,000 tons of roots to the sugar plant using four heavy freight trucks, each of which pulled four trailers. For transporting such a quantity of raw materials, 10-12 motor vehicles would be required and a third more fuel. Mobile workshops for the repair and technical inspection of vehicles commenced operations in the vicinity of the sugar plants. They are equipped with welding and machine tool equipment and they have a reserve supply of parts at their disposal. /Text/ /Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 6 Oct 84 p 2/ 7026

COMPETITION WINNERS--Under the chairmanship of G.I. Yeremeya, the chairman of the Moldavian republic council of professional trade unions, a meeting was held by the committee for summarizing the results of the socialist competition for the timely and high quality harvesting and shipping of sugar beets. Drokiyevskiy Rayon was declared to be the winner. Since the beginning of the season, its farmers had harvested 146,000 tons of roots and during a 5-day period -- 24,000 tons. Second place was won by the beet growers in Orgeyevskiy Rayon and third place -- Lazovskiy Rayon. The committee took note of the high harvest rates on those farms which made extensive use of the flow line method for harvesting sugar beets, without manual cleaning of the roots. The Rybnitsa machine operators, who employ this method in all areas, proved convincingly that only in this manner is it possible to reduce the time required for loading the motor transport vehicles and raise the quality of the products. The farms in Glodyanskiy, Dondyushanskiy and Oknitskiy rayons are also rapidly harvesting the crop out on their beet plantations. The committee directed attention to the lag that had developed in Sholdaneshtskiy and Kamenskiy rayons, where the root crops have been dug up from less than half of the areas and where the 5-day task for shipping the crop was fulfilled by only 28 percent. The committee underscored the need for raising the rates for harvesting and shipping the sugar beets, eliminating crop losses during transport operations, harvesting an area of not less than 3,500 hectares of plantation daily and delivering no less than 70,000 tons of raw materials to the receiving points each day. /Excerpts/ /Kishinev SOVETSKAYA MOLDAVIYA in Russian 17 Oct 84 p 3/ 7026

CSO: 1824/070

LIVESTOCK FEED PROCUREMENT

PRE-WINTER FEED PROCUREMENT OVERVIEW

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 21 Sep 84 p 1

/Article: "Feed From an Autumn Field"/

/Text/ In the complex of agricultural operations to be carried out, there are no matters of secondary concern. Nevertheless there is one particular area of concern which, in terms of its importance, is on a par with the busy harvest season. This is the production of feed. There is good reason for a like amount of concern being displayed for feed production as for grain. Especially at the present time, on the threshold of the livestock wintering period on the farms.

This is important work in view of the fact that the development of animal husbandry -- a branch of the APK /agroindustrial complex/ which must play an important role in implementing the Food Program -- is dependent upon successful feed production operations. And there is still one other notable peculiarity: this work is very prolonged -- it is in full swing during the haying period out on the summer meadows and it does not abate until the very threshold of winter. Today the situation is even quite the opposite, with feed production being singled out as an independent branch and with the specialized brigades and teams of feed procurement specialists converting over to the collective contract and striving to make use of all reserves for achieving high final results, their labor activities during this autumn period almost seem to be grasping for a "second breath."

By the end of the first half of September, the following materials had been placed in storage in ricks, trenches and storehouses throughout the country: 63.4 million tons of hay, 65.3 -- haylage, 146.7 -- silage, 6.3 -- grass meal and 72.5 million tons of straw. These are good indicators. One can only take pleasure in the fact that attention is being given to the forage fields on the whole.

Nevertheless, it bears mentioning that the amount of feed being placed in storage, especially hay, is less than the amount required. Certainly, the work was adversely affected by the unfavorable spring period and the frequent rainfall during the haying period. But the situation cannot be fully explained by mere references to the weather. Organizational discrepancies also took their toll. Time is passing and in the Russian Federation, for example, approximately 1.5 million hectares of natural haying land have not been mown and in Kazakhstan -- more than a million hectares. This work is being dragged out on farms in Georgia and Armenia. Even on many tracts that have been cut down, the

hay has not been picked up. Although the grass for subsequent cuttings has already appeared, the aftergrowth is sprouting out on the meadows. Opportunities are to be found in all areas for the intensive accumulation of feed. And considerable amounts of feed at that. Proper action is being taken on those farms where all available sources for augmenting the feed supplies are being taken into account, where the procurement detachments have been strengthened, where these detachments have been provided with the conditions required for highly productive work and where concern is being displayed for issuing moral and material incentives.

In view of the increasing requirements of animal husbandry in many regions of the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Belorussia and other republics, the sowings of forage crops have been expanded and they are now occupying lands made available following the harvesting of early crops. For example, repeated sowings alone occupy more than 4 million hectares at the present time. In the opinion of specialists, this is making it possible to obtain 20-25 million tons of feed, to augment considerably the silage supplies and to ensure that the cattle are supplied with a green top dressing. Generally speaking, the experience of leading farms has shown that the work of the "green production line" can be prolonged considerably in many regions of the country through the well thought out placement of rape, wild cabbage and winter oats. And this can be done practically year-round in the south, in the Trans-Caucasus and in Central Asia. However, only weak use is being made of these opportunities.

At the present time, the corn plantations require special attention. Particularly those fields which are to be harvested for silage. There are many areas which have not yet been harvested and meanwhile the period for doing so is coming to a close. And if haste is not displayed in completing the work, there will inevitably be losses in both fodder and in the nutritional value of the silage. When preparing succulent feeds, use must be made of all available materials: beet haulm, sunflower heads, post harvest residue from grain production and the waste scraps from potatoes and vegetables. For example, the beet haulm alone can furnish 30 million tons of excellent protein-vitamin raw material for the preparation of silage, including mixed feed. In short, the specialists make use of all available materials.

The skilful harvesting of grain corn can also supply a considerable additional amount of forage. Here we have in mind the use of such leading technologies as the preparation of mixed silage from corn with ears and the separate preservation of ears and non-grain bulk. And a chief concern -- placing damp milled grain in storage. This method makes it possible to increase the grain yield and to raise the overall yield of nutrients per hectare by 30 percent. In the process, a sharp reduction takes place in labor expenditures and a savings is realized in the fuel usually expended for drying out the grain. Moreover, the feed obtained makes it possible to reduce the requirement for costly concentrates by 15-20 percent. Workers in Rostov Oblast and on a number of Ukrainian farms have proven the advantages of this new technology in actual practice.

The experience of leading workers can be utilized in all areas where the corn ears ripen to a waxy ripeness. Using an energy conserving technology approved by a committee of the Presidium of the USSR Council of Ministers on problems of the agroindustrial complex, the plans call for up to 1.5 million tons of feed to

be procured in the Russian Federation and not less than 1 million tons in the Ukraine. Unfortunately however, not everyone is prepared to make use of this generally simple method. For example, only one half of the storehouses intended for damp grain had been placed in operation in Vinnitsa Oblast prior to the beginning of September and many farms lack crushing mills.

Today the councils in the various areas and the kolkhoz and sovkhoz leaders and their partners in the agroindustrial complex must exercise special control over the work concerned with accumulating feed from all possible sources and they must ensure that the feed is preserved and utilized properly. Can a situation be tolerated wherein, in Ivanovo, Kostroma, Kirov, Ulyanovsk and Gorkiy oblasts and in the Kalmyk ASSR, where the grain harvest work has been completed, the straw has yet to be gathered up? The farm leaders are devoting only weak attention to the problem of gathering up the food remnants. The microbiological, food and chemical industries, which are supplying only limited amounts of the various additives required for raising the quality of the feed, are under a great obligation to the livestock breeders. As yet, not every farm has a feed preparation shop or feed kitchen in a state of readiness.

Simultaneous with completing the feed procurement operations, the livestock should be converted over from summer pasturage to indoor maintenance. The leaders and specialists of RAPO /rayon agroindustrial association/, kolkhozes and sovkhozes, people's deputies and all livestock breeders are responsible, commencing with the very first days, for achieving a high level of organization in their work. Each farm and each kilogram of forage must be taken into account the feed balance and the feed rations must be computed correctly for the entire winter, the preparation of feed must be organized and strict control established over the daily routine. Not one kilogram of milk yield or weight increase should be lost during the transitional period.

Only harmonious actions, comradely mutual assistance, mutual profit, individual expertise and collective responsibility for the final result will enable the workers attached to the agroindustrial complex to solve the chief task: to obtain more products during the winter with fewer expenditures of feed.

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CSO: 1824/83

LIVESTOCK FEED PROCUREMENT

STATUS OF FEED PREPARATION, PROCESSING IN VARIOUS AREAS

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 23 Oct 84 p 1

[Editorial article: "More Production Using the Same Amount of Feed"]

[Text] "More production using the same amount of feed!"--this is the slogan that represents ever-increasing socialist competition of village workers for the organized completion of overwintering of livestock and for increasing the production and sale to the state of milk, meat and other farm products during the stall-upkeep period. Not only is this the motto of labor competition among livestock farmers, it is their final goal as well, and a specific program of work for workers in the agro-industrial complex.

Producing more products using the same quantity of feed means first and foremost taking account of every kilogram of forage. A good example in this regard was provided by the people's controllers of Crimea Oblast. Having taken up and developed the initiative of the people's control group in Kolkhoz imeni Kalinin, they organized controls over the efficient use of feed on every farm. In Tselinnyy Rayon of North Kazakhstan Oblast this task was assumed by deputy groups and posts created on farms. The leading enterprises of Tula Oblast strictly account for all types of feeds and expend them strictly in accordance with rations. In Kazakhstanskiy Sovkhoz of Tselinograd Oblast hay and silage are released according to credit-limit cards. It is important to extensively disseminate the positive experience of strictly controlling feed expenditures, to issue feed only according to weight and to close the channels of loss.

More production using the same quantity of feed will be achieved in those places where plans were made to prepare the feed for feeding and where feed is stored only in prepared and processed form. In the majority of oblasts feed shops were repaired on schedule. The great return on well-prepared feeds, and first and foremost coarse feeds, is demonstrated by calculations made by specialists from Bryansk Oblast. The processing of straw included in the ration using the thermochemical method will enable oblast enterprises to produce about 10,000 tons more of meat or 80,000 tons more of milk! Long-term experience has proven that the feed shop on a farm is not a reserve object that is maintained in case of a feed shortage, but an integral technological link and an important source for increasing the return on every kilogram of forage.

However, not everyone exhibits the necessary responsible attitude toward the organization of feed production. According to data from the USSR Agricultural Ministry, there are delays in the repair and operational start of feed shops in Arkhangelsk, Perm, Tomsk, Karaganda, Kustanay and Semipalatinsk oblasts. In the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Chita Oblast at the beginning of the stall-upkeep period only a small number of feed shops were operational. It is no accident that the milk yield of cows has dropped in the oblast. The position of directors of the agro-industrial association of Voronezh Oblast is totally incomprehensible. The situation related to supplying farms with feed is a serious one here. But evidently this did not bother everyone. During the first 10 days of October only 436 of 747 feed shops were operating, and of the 262 newly-built or renovated objects only 63 had started putting out production. To correct the situation and to include all feed shops, kitchens and platforms in operations immediately--these are important goals for the councils of oblast and rayon agro-industrial associations and for directors and specialists of enterprises.

In order to produce more production using the same quantity of feed it is essential to feed it to animals as part of full-value rations that are balanced in the most important nutrients. An incorrect point of view exists that it is possible and necessary to balance rations only in places where a good feed reserve has been created. Meanwhile, it is farms that are poorly supplied with forage that need this type of work most of all. Experience has shown that it is possible to significantly increase the return on feed by making feed mixtures from available ingredients with the best possible, if not optimal, ratio of various substances and the addition of micro- and macro-elements that are lacking in the ration.

In Estonia the feeding of the dairy herd has been skilfully organized. Here there has been widespread use of standardized rations according to class of productivity. Full-value feeding has enabled workers of dairy farms to maintain yields, which exceed last year's high levels by 101 kilograms and which equal 3,026 kilograms of milk on the average per cow, even during the difficult transitional fall period. Livestock farmers of Lvov Oblast are helped to increase the productivity of the dairy herd by the flow-shop system of milk production, which simplifies the standardization of feeds for cows that are divided into groups depending on their physical status. The enterprises of Moldavia, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Tajikistan have begun the overwintering of livestock in an organized manner. But in the Turkmen SSR, Bashkir ASSR, Maritime Kray, and Saratov, Sverdlovsk, Vinnitsa, Donetsk and Chernigov oblasts both milk yields and weight gains have decreased.

How effectively every kilogram of hay and silage, haylage and concentrates will be used during the stall-upkeep period which has already begun depends first of all on farm workers themselves--on their training and business-like manner, on their discipline and interest. The organizers of competition among livestock farmers take this into account. Decreasing feed expenditures for the production of a quintal of milk by 3 percent and for the production of meat by 10 percent--this is the obligation assumed by workers of Porplishche Breeding Plant, initiators of competition among farm workers in Vitebsk Oblast.

The collective of Kozhlasolinskiy Sovkhoz of Mari ASSR has become involved in organizing feeding of livestock according to detailed norms and in decreasing the expenditure of forage per unit of production. Great obligations related to the economic and efficient utilization of feeds and to increasing, on this basis, the production and sale of animal products are being assumed by the collectives of many farms in the Kuban'. We could continue the list of such examples. But unfortunately we also come across facts of a different nature which reveal that there are no concrete specifications regarding economizing on feed in either the socialist obligations of livestock farmers or in measures planned by specialists of enterprises.

One of the most responsible periods in livestock raising is in progress, the results of which to a significant degree will determine the results of the labor of farm workers during the final year of the five-year plan. "Agricultural workers!" says the inspirational message of the October meeting of the CPSU Central Committee, "Strengthen the feed base for livestock raising, and increase its productivity!"

"Strive for an organized conclusion to the overwintering of livestock! Increase the output of livestock products!"

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CSO: 1824/86

LIVESTOCK

EDITORIAL REVIEWS PRODUCTIVITY, PREPARATIONS FOR WINTERING

Moscow SEL'SKAYA ZHIZN' in Russian 20 Nov 84 p 1

/Editorial: "Special Concern for the Wintering of the Livestock"/

/Text/ In his speech delivered before the October Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade K.U. Chernenko emphasized that special importance at the present time is being attached to making use of all opportunities for ensuring the successful carrying out of the livestock wintering operations and preventing any abatement from taking place in the production and procurement of animal husbandry products. In carrying out this task, the workers assigned to leading kolkhoz and sovkhoz farms, commencing with the very first days of the indoor maintenance period, are doing everything possible to raise the productivity of the livestock, to improve reproduction of the herd and the raising of young stock and to increase the production and sale of livestock products to the state. A majority of the union republics have had a fine start with their wintering operations on the farms. Considerably more milk than last year is being sold by farms in the Ukraine, Latvia and Moldavia and meat -- by farms in Belorussia, Lithuania and Estonia.

Of special value is the fact that these results were obtained mainly as a result of branch intensification and improvements in the productivity of the animals. Compared to last year, considerable increases have taken place in the annual milk yields and the weight of cattle being sold for meat purposes by farms in Belorussia, Lithuania, Moldavia and Estonia has increased noticeably. Failures have taken place in those areas where reliance was placed upon extensive factors for the development of animal husbandry.

Again and again, one particular instruction by the party is borne out -- we must first of all raise the productivity of the livestock and obtain more output from the same number of animals -- this must be the principal direction to be followed in the development of animal husbandry.

This fact must be taken into consideration when organizing the work of any farm and especially during the winter. It is an utter waste to expend feed for the maintenance of poor zootechnical material -- old, sick or barren unproductive cows. For example, specialists attached to the Ministry of Agriculture for the Komi ASSR have estimated that farms in the autonomous republic have accumulated up to 2,000 cows which are furnishing neither milk nor offspring. During the period from September to December, the same amount of

feed is consumed for maintaining this unproductive stock as is considered adequate for obtaining 1,000 tons of milk. And correct action was taken by those party, soviet and agricultural leaders in Estonia, the Tatar ASSR and in Kirovograd, Cherkassy and a number of other oblasts which authorized the farms to control the size of the herd, provided they abide by one indispensable condition -- ensure the fulfillment of the state tasks for the sale of milk, meat and other farm products. As a rule, increases have taken place in the cow milk yields at such kolkhozes and sovkhozes and gross milk production has increased with more efficient expenditures of feed, labor and other resources.

Unfortunately, cattle productivity continues to remain low on many farms in the Maritime Kray and in Smolensk, Rostov and Kokchetav oblasts. Quite often the farm specialists are overworked with having to perform an excessive amount of accounting work and the RAPO /rayon agroindustrial association/ apparatus -- with having to prepare various summaries. Thus the agricultural ministries in Latvia and the Bashkir introduced a system calling for milk yield reports to be issued every 10 days. In Vologda and Kemerovo oblasts this information must be furnished once every 5 days and in the Mordovian ASSR and Tambov Oblast -- daily. The party and soviet organs must bring about a noticeable change in the work organization of the farm leaders and specialists, such that they exert an influence mainly in connection with improving the production technology on the farms and at the complexes and not manage them only on the basis of summaries and reports. The decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers on improving planning and economic stimulation in the production and procurement of agricultural products must be carried out in a very strict manner.

It is difficult to exaggerate the role played by a competition in the exemplary carrying out of the livestock wintering operations. A labor competition has been organized on many farms in Belorussia. It has one characteristic feature -- reliable logistical support for the high obligations undertaken by the livestock breeders. At the Komsomolets Sovkhoz in Minsk Oblast and at the Peremoga Kolkhoz in Gomel Oblast, for example, feed has been set aside for each livestock subunit which will guarantee the production and sale of the planned amounts of milk and meat. In the Altay Kray, the conditions for a public inspection of the livestock wintering operations called for awards to be issued to the collectives of raysel'khoztekhnika, brigades for providing all-round services for livestock farms, forestry enterprises, meat and dairy industry, domestic services, trade and medical and cultural-educational institutions. And here the recommendations call for material incentives to be issued not only to milkmaids and cattle tenders, hog tenders and shepherds, but also to workers assigned to feed preparation shops and to farm machinists. The competition in Kurgan Oblast is also organized based upon these same principles and this will undoubtedly aid the livestock breeders here in rapidly overcoming their backwardness. However, there are many examples of the competition for increasing the milk yields and weight increases involving only workers from the principal animal husbandry subunits. Meanwhile an increase in the production of farm products is dependent both upon the branch's workers and upon the efforts of other elements of the agroindustrial complex.

Not all of them are coping with their obligations in behalf of the farm workers. The enterprises of the Ministry of Machine Building for Animal Husbandry and

Feed Production fell considerably short in their deliveries of needed machines to the farms. Moreover, the reliability of these machines left a great deal to be desired and its nomenclature was such that it was impossible to mechanize many of the labor-intensive operations. It was for this reason that the winter work of the livestock breeders became more difficult and scientific-technical progress in the branch was held back. By no means did the workers of Goskomsel'khoztekhnika organize reliable technical servicing for the farm equipment or ensure its reliable operation in all areas. The meat and dairy industry in a number of republics was all too slow in converting over to the acceptance of farm products in the production areas and to shipping the products by means of transport equipment supplied by the procurement specialists. Thus, whereas this method was employed in the Lithuanian SSR for procuring more than two thirds of the livestock, in the Turkmen and Estonian SSR's -- only 4-8 percent. In Moldavia, 60 percent of the milk is being procured with the aid of centralized shipping and in Uzbekistan -- only 7 percent. This will lead to large unproductive expenditures and to a reduction in the quality of the products.

The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee recently approved the operational experience of the farms and party and soviet organizations in Belgorod Oblast in raising the effectiveness of use of feed resources and reducing grain consumption for forage purposes. Important steps in this direction have also been taken in Vladimir Oblast. State and interenterprise mixed feed enterprises can play a great role in raising the return from grain forage. A situation must be achieved wherein as much grain as possible, allocated for feeding to the livestock, reaches the feeding troughs in the form of full-value mixed feed. This has already been achieved in a number of rayons in Krasnodar Kray and Lvov Oblast. Unfortunately however, the following situation is still being encountered: a mixed feed plant lies idle owing to an absence of raw materials, while at nearby farms unprocessed grain is being poured into the feeding troughs. Such practice must be eliminated.

The wintering of livestock requires daily and tense work on the part of all elements of the agroindustrial complex. Importance is attached to not wasting time, to constantly monitoring the operating pulse of the farms and to working at maximum capability beginning with the very first days -- indeed any dereliction can seriously lower the final results. Some bewilderment is aroused in this regard by incidents involving intolerable delays in the launching of a competition among farm workers. Thus the party and soviet organs in Omsk, Yaroslavl, Tselinograd and Grodno oblasts adopted appropriate decrees only in November, more than a month after the commencement of the indoor maintenance period. The labor competition on the farms should be further expanded and high results ensured for it.

During the October Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, an urgent task was established -- to consolidate the positive trends in the development of animal husbandry and to take all possible steps aimed at accelerating it. The carrying out of this task is an honorable obligation of workers assigned to all elements of the country's agroindustrial complex.

LIVESTOCK

UDC 631.15:337:636.22/.28034

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING DAIRY CATTLE RAISING IN RSFSR

Moscow ZHIVOTNOVODSTVO in Russian No 10, Oct 84 pp 18-20

Article by K.T. Sidorova, candidate of agricultural sciences and A.D. Maksimov and A.I. Altukhov, candidates of economic sciences at VNIETUSKh: "Development of Dairy Cattle Husbandry on Farms in the RSFSR"/

Text Dairy cattle husbandry is a leading branch of animal husbandry in the Russian Federation.

The RSFSR occupies a leading place in the all-union production of milk and beef (more than 52 percent). However the modern level of development for dairy cattle husbandry in the republic is not in keeping with the increasing requirements of the population for the branch's products.

During the years of the 10th Five-Year Plan, milk production on all categories of farms increased by 8 percent compared to the 8th Five-Year Plan and compared to the 9th Five-Year Plan -- it increased by 3 percent. The rates of growth in milk production were achieved mainly as a result of an increase in the number of animals. Thus the production of milk at kolkhozes increased by 24 percent above the figure for the 8th Five-Year Plan. The increase in the number of cows accounted for 23 percent and productivity -- only 1 percent.

One of the most important indicators for the development of dairy cattle husbandry is the productivity of the animals. However the absolute level for this indicator has continued to remain low for a number of years. Thus in 1970 the average annual milk yield per cow at kolkhozes, sovkhoses and other state enterprises throughout the republic was 2,328 kilograms, in 1975 -- 2,300 kilograms and in 1980 -- 2,133 kilograms. This trend continued through the first two years of the 11th Five-Year Plan (average milk yield per cow -- 2,108 kilograms).

The disproportion between the increase in the number of cows and their productivity also brought about a deterioration in a number of economic indicators for dairy cattle husbandry. The consumption of feed per unit of output increased as did also production costs. Labor expenditures for the production of milk and for servicing the animals continue to remain high.

The productivity of the animals can be increased by further raising the level and quality of the feeding operations; improvements in breeding and selection

work; improvements in reproduction of the herd; converting the branch over to an industrial basis; supplying dairy cattle husbandry with highly skilled personnel; achieving a more rational placement for the dairy animals and cattle strains; improving the systems for production organization and technology.

At the present time and for a period of time in the immediate future, the feeding conditions will have a decisive effect on the milk productivity of the animals. Studies have shown that the low level of cow productivity during the 1966-1980 period was caused mainly by an inadequate feed base. Despite the lag in feed production compared to the increases in cattle over a period of many years, the number of cattle has increased annually. As a result, the feed deficit has continued. For example, compared to the 8th and 9th five-year plans, the number of cows on farms throughout the republic increased by 23 and 12 percent respectively and feed consumption per cow -- by 14 and 8 percent.

The quality of the feed remains low as a result of great losses in nutrients caused by violations of the established technology for procurements, preparation and storage.

Nor have the improvements realized in the structure of the feed being consumed promoted an increase in the productivity of the cattle. As a result of the non-fulfillment of the production plan for hay, silage, root crops and pasture feed, their production in the ration structure has decreased sharply (see Table)

Average Annual Structure for Feed Consumption by Dairy Cattle
on Public Farms in the RSFSR

Feed	1966- 1970	1976- 1980	1981- 1982	Structure Recommended by VIZh
Concentrated	22.1	28.1	27.1	14
Coarse (total)	18.4	20.5	21.0	28
including hay	10.6	5.8	7.6	15
Succulent feed (total)	58.5	50.1	50.4	58
including:				
silage	20.6	17.7	18.2	26
fodder	9.3	12.1	12.6	
pasture feed	22.3	15.5	15.0	30*
root vegetables, melon crops	5.2	3.1	2.1	2
Other types	1.0	1.3	1.4	-
* Green and pasture feeds.				

The overall feeding level was raised mainly by means of concentrates. Compared to the 8th Five-Year Plan when the average annual consumption of concentrates per cow amounted to 600-800 feed units, during the 10th Five-Year Plan -- 1,000 feed units. On some farms, the use of concentrated feed in the ration structure reached 40-50 percent and higher. In addition to bringing about an overexpenditure of the concentrated feed, this also adversely affected the

health of the animals, since high concentrate feeding of young animals tends to increase the formation in the rumen of butyric acid, which is accompanied by a disruption of the alkaline balance and a reduction in the oxidation-restorative processes, ketose and so forth. A metabolic disruption in turn leads to a reduction in the fat content of the milk, a deterioration in the reproductive function and, it follows, to an increase in the barrenness of cows.

VIZh [All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Livestock Breeding], in the interest of improving the productivity of cows, which during the years of the 10th Five-Year Plan amounted to 2,250 kilograms of milk per cow throughout the republic, recommends that the ration contain not more than 14 percent concentrates. Foreign and domestic science have accumulated a great amount of experience in obtaining a high milk productivity in animals with moderate feeding of concentrates. It has been established that it is possible to achieve a milk yield of 2,500-2,800 kilograms annually using high quality coarse, succulent and green feed and with no expenditures of concentrates.

A strong increase in milk productivity (500-600 kilograms) can be obtained by improving the feeding of animals, while taking into account their increasing genetic potential productivity. In this regard, capital investments are being made available for carrying out improvements in feed production. The average annual consumption of feed per cow (taking into account losses and insurance reserves) must be raised to 4,000-5,000 feed units and higher (or it must be increased compared to the 10th Five-Year Plan by 16 and 27 percent respectively).

An improvement in the feeding level for cows must be associated with improving the quality of the ration by organizing the efficient use of coarse, succulent and green feeds, while simultaneously employing concentrates in a thrifty manner. Studies carried out at VIZh have established that the amount of concentrates in a cow ration must not exceed 250-350 grams per kilogram of milk.

At the same time, a requirement exists for intensifying the work of radically improving the meadows and pastures, gradually increasing the supplies of concentrated, coarse and succulent feeds, developing the mixed feed industry and so forth. This problem must be resolved in each specific region by raising the yield of forage crops and expanding their cultivation on reclaimed lands, improving the use of natural haying and pasture lands and making extensive use of progressive technologies for the production, procurement and storage of feed.

Improvements in the milk productivity of cows are greatly dependent upon improvements taking place in the reproduction of the herd. Instead of large capital investments, this merely requires the efficient organization of production control at each specific farm. The shortcomings which took place in feed production in previous years resulted in failure to use 50-70 percent of the available genetic potential and also in a reduction in the effectiveness of herd reproduction operations throughout the branch as a whole. The growth and development of replacement young stock are lagging considerably behind the normative indicators. Spetskhozes [specialized farms] and inter-farm associations for the raising of young bulls and heifers have been created for

the purpose of eliminating this situation. However, even on these farms a great amount of work remains to be carried out in order to improve the organization of feed production and also the technology for raising young stock. For the republic as a whole, the average age for the initial insemination of heifers is 20 months and at a live weight of 318 kilograms, instead of 16-18 months and 360-400 kilograms according to the normative. As a result of replacement young stock being held over too long, the average age for the first calving of cows has been extended considerably and this is increasing by more than 12-15 percent the period for the unproductive use of the animals, it is delaying the rates for reproduction of the herd, it is resulting in unproductive expenditures and most important -- in excessive feed consumption. The holding over of replacement animals and young stock to be fattened for too long a period has also brought about a reduction in the proportion of cows in the structure of a herd. Shortcomings in the raising of replacement young stock have precluded the possibility of maintaining the age structure of a herd at the optimum level: the number of cows of the 4th and 5th lactations, the most productive portion of a herd, amounts at the present time to 21 percent instead of 30-35 percent according to the normative.

In solving the problem of further improving breeding work with dairy cattle, the plans call for an improvement in raising young stock in the interest of revealing their genetic potential dairy productivity at an earlier date. The plans call for an acceleration in developing the animals by improving the feeding and maintenance of heifers, developing spetskhozhes still further for the raising of heifers and increasing intra-branch specialization. This will make it possible to inseminate heifers for the first time at the age of 16-18 months and upon achieving a live weight of not lower than 360 kilograms. This will make it possible to increase considerably the weight of cows in their first and subsequent lactations and also to increase the introduction into operations of first heifers from 22 to 28-30 percent and to lower the proportion of animals of seven calvings or more from 18 to 8-10 percent. For the republic as a whole, the plans call for the number of cows in the herd structure to be increased to 40 percent and in some oblasts and in the suburban zones of large industrial centers specializing in the production of milk -- to 60 percent. The plans call for more than 90 calves to be obtained from every 100 cows by eliminating shortcomings in the dairy cattle technology. In the process, barrenness in the animals must be reduced to 8-10 percent. The plans call for an increase to take place in the work directed towards improving the pedigree and productive qualities of the dairy cattle. The method of selecting first heifers according to their productivity and suitability for machine milking must be employed on a more extensive scale. Science and practical experience have proven that this method promotes an acceleration in improving the herd and raises its productivity by 10-15 percent.

An evaluation of the existing gene fund for dairy cattle and of the scientific-technical achievements realized in raising their pedigree qualities underscores the possibility of raising the milk yield per cow to 3,200-3,500 kilograms. In this regard, a greater role must be played by the breeding-genetic factors. During the next decade, it will be possible to raise productivity by 25-30 percent through improvements in the breeding qualities of the dairy cattle. The plans call for positive changes in the use of strains. In the future, the proportion of cows in the structure of the dairy herd will be increased to

60-65 percent, mainly by expanding the breedings of animals of the black-variegated strain while simultaneously decreasing the use of mixed strains. The principal grouping of animals of the black-variegated strain should be concentrated in regions of the nonchernozem zone of the RSFSR, western Siberia and the Far East. Studies have established the fact that cows of the black-variegated and Kholmogorsk strains have the highest milk productivity (25-30 percent higher) of all of the cattle found in these regions.

Dairy cattle husbandry must be developed at more rapid rates in the northern, northwestern, central, Volga-Vyatsk, western Siberian economic regions and in the northern Urals, where the best feed opportunities are available. Increased specialization in these regions will in the future be carried out through the creation of systems of specialized farms for the raising of non-calving young cows (first heifers), the maturing and fattening of young stock, for milk production and for the production of feed for large complexes.

The modern scales for the development of cattle husbandry and feed production at kolkhozes and sovkhozes throughout the republic are such that a reduction in the cost of the feed consumed by this branch of 1 percent, all other conditions being equal, will bring about a reduction in expenditures of almost 0.5 percent. At the same time, the availability of considerable areas of natural feed lands and considerable areas occupied by grain and forage crops are still not satisfying the increasing requirements of cattle husbandry for feed, either from a quantity or quality standpoint.

In the future, the planned rates of growth in gross milk production and in the productivity of the cows must be achieved exclusively by raising labor productivity and without increasing the number of workers. It bears mentioning that the level and modern rates for lowering the labor intensiveness of milk production are inadequate for achieving a high level of economic efficiency. Correlative-regressive analysis has shown that labor expenditures can be reduced in the future through the introduction of all-round mechanization of the production processes on kolkhoz and sovkhoz farms, increased production specialization and concentration based upon interenterprise cooperation, more efficient use of feed, the creation of a strong feed base and so forth.

Branch intensification, the introduction of scientific-technical achievements into the production technology based upon production concentration and specialization and improvements in the feeding and maintenance conditions for the cattle are making it possible to achieve a considerable increase in milk production throughout the republic. Many regions of the Russian Federation, especially the nonchernozem zone, have at their disposal favorable economic and natural conditions for the development of dairy cattle husbandry. However, an increase in branch efficiency during this modern stage is possible only on the basis of complete interaction among all of the production factors -- technical, technological and organizational-economic. The failure to evaluate properly just one of these factors can reduce to nil the effectiveness of all of the measures outlined for further developing dairy cattle husbandry.

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CSO: 1824/102

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EFFICIENCY OF LARGE RSFSR HOGBREEDING COMPLEXES STUDIED

Moscow SVINOVODSTVO in Russian No 10, Oct 84 pp 3-5

/Article by N. Koval'chuk, chief of the Main Administration for Hog Breeding of the RSFSR Ministry of Agriculture: "A Hog Breeding Complex: Achievements and Problems"/

/Text/ At the beginning of this year there were 295 hog breeding complexes in operation throughout the republic, representing an overall capability for producing 1,026,000 tons of pork annually.

Over the past 9 years, the complexes produced 5.4 million tons of pork, the sale of which produced 1,682,000 rubles of profit. The expenditures for their construction have already been repaid by 65 percent.

During 1983, all of the complexes of Russia produced 820,700 tons of pork, or 38.4 percent of the pork production in the public sector. Compared to 1982, the production volumes had increased by 103,700 tons or by 14.3 percent.

Experience has shown that the most efficient work is carried out at complexes having a capability for maintaining 54,000 or more hogs annually. Pork production at these farms amounts to 140 kilograms, which is twice as high as the figure for kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

Last year the average daily increase in weight during fattening was 556 grams, feed expenditures per quintal of weight increase -- 5.6 quintals of feed units and labor expenditures -- 4.8 man-hours. The production cost per quintal of weight increase does not exceed 140 rubles.

Since the commencement of their operations, the following sovkhozes have been performing in a stable manner and over-fulfilling their established plans: Industrial'nyy in Krasnodar Kray, Permskiy in Perm Oblast, Luzinskiy in Omsk Oblast, Kommunist in Vologda Oblast, imeni 50-Letiya SSSR in Kalinin Oblast, Vladimirskiy in Vladimir Oblast and Dzemginskiy in Khabarovsk Kray.

Unfortunately, we have only a few such farms. An analysis of the work reveals that last year the overwhelming majority of the large complexes suffered a deterioration in their quality and economic indicators. And compared to 1982, the sale of pork to the state decreased without sufficient justification at such

sovkhozes as Novyy Svet in Leningrad Oblast, imeni 50-Letiya SSSR in Moscow Oblast, Iskra in Ryazan Oblast, Gubkinskiy in Belgorod Oblast and others.

The work carried out at such complexes as Borovoye in Ivanovo Oblast, Malinovskiy and Pervomanskiy in Krasnoyarsk Kray, Tikhookeanskiy in the Maritime Kray, Tyurleminskiy in the Chuvash ASSR, Uralets and Kargopol'skiy in Kurgan Oblast, Viktoriya in Tambov Oblast, Innokent'yevskiy in Amur Oblast and Sotszemledeliye and Arkadakskiy in Saratov Oblast has been criticized repeatedly. However, last year, just as in the past, they were included on the list of enterprises having the worst indicators for mastering their planned capabilities.

Quite often we associate the failures and disruptions experienced in mastering a technology with the low quality of the feed being made available. This is partially true. At the present time, we cannot cite one of our complexes as being the recipient of fully balanced and non-toxic mixed feed. Nor can we negate the fact that such complexes as Borovoye in Ivanovo, Makkaveyevskiy in Chita, Turtapskiy in Gorkiy, Iskra in Ryazan, Kommunist and Vologodskiy in Vologda and imeni 50-Letiya SSR in Kalinin Oblast and others are being supplied with feed which is lower than the average level and which involves considerable deviations from the requirements set forth in the OST /All Union Standard/. In addition to quality, improvements should ideally also be carried out in the matter of feed deliveries. Violations of the feed delivery schedules leads to frequent interruptions in the feeding of the animals. However the productivity indicators for these complexes, particularly increases in weight during fattening and expenditures for feed, differ considerably from one another. Compared to the Sovkhoz imeni 50-Letiya SSSR in Kalinin Oblast and Kommunist in Vologda Oblast, where the average daily weight increase during fattening amounts to approximately 600 grams and the feed expenditures per quintal of weight increase -- 4.7-5.4 quintals of feed units, at the sovkhozes Borovoye, Turtapskiy and imeni 50-Letiya SSSR in Tyumen Oblast the weight increases over a period of a number of years have not exceeded 250-391 grams and the feed expenditures -- 5.9-8.7 feed units.

The leaders of these enterprises and others have a considerable amount of work confronting them.

In recent years, in the interest of smoothing out the mistakes committed by enterprises of the mixed feed industry, we began enriching the hog rations using various feed additives such as grass meal, root crops, fodder, mixed silage, dairy waste products, macro and microelements and others. Considerable resources were expended for this purpose.

The operational experience of many enterprises has shown that in those areas where serious attention is being given to this measure, the safeguarding of the animals and their productivity are considerably higher.

For example, at the Sovkhoz imeni 50-Letiya SSSR in Kalinin Oblast, which has 1,760 hectares of arable land, 2,900 tons of grain, 5,400 tons of potatoes, 1,300 tons of root crops, 1,400 tons of grass meal and 1,900 tons of mixed silage were produced. The sovkhoz utilizes large quantities of food scraps.

At the same time, the Gubkinskiy Sovkhoz, which has two complexes for 108,000 head each, procured 175 tons of grass meal and 157 tons of root crops, the Pugachevskiy Sovkhoz in the Tatar ASSR -- 35 tons of grass meal and 450 tons of root crops and the Sosnovoborskiy Sovkhoz in this same republic -- 328 tons of grass meal and 879 tons of root crops. A large number of farms could be cited which do not consider it necessary to engage in this work, despite the fact that they possess the potential for increasing the procurements of succulent and vitamin feeds.

Many complexes have organized the boiling of mixed feed or treating it with hot steam in the interest of eliminating the effects of toxins on the hog organism.

As is known, the effectiveness of grain utilization is associated with the degree to which it was milled.

In this regard, many complexes have organized the sifting of SK-3 and SK-4 mixed feeds for the purpose of separating out foreign objects and husks, the extrusion of the grain portion and the introduction of additional microelements, fish stuffing and so forth.

It bears mentioning that the system for issuing feed at the complexes precludes the possibility of using the mechanized method for distributing green and succulent feed to the animals. The specialists at a number of complexes solved this problem by adding additional shops with sets of machines for the washing and milling of these types of feed to a paste-like consistency, at which point they are delivered to the feed mixers. The most successful solution was achieved at the sovkhoses Iskra in Ryazan Oblast, Nekrasovskiy in Khabarovsk Kray, Rostovskiy in Rostov Oblast and Perspektivnyy in Saratov Oblast.

As is known, the feed delivered to the hog breeding complexes is not always the type required for the technology and yet it should be borne in mind that not everything is dependent upon the mixed feed plants. Considerable difficulties are being encountered in connection with making available such ingredients as corn, soybean and sunflower oil-seed meal, certain types of premixes and feed of animal origin. In the winter there is a constant shortage of dry milk and so forth. Under these conditions, the work with the plants should be organized in a manner so as to ensure that the available raw materials are used to produce the most suitable mixed feed for a particular recipe and by mutual agreement between the complex and the plant. This is the method being employed at the present time at the Gubkin, Perm, Luzinskiy and other complexes.

This year the measures call for the development of a draft agreement between the mixed feed plants and complexes and the conversion of these enterprises over to a system of mutual material interest, depending upon the quality of the mixed feed and the operational results achieved by the complexes.

A complicated situation has developed at a majority of our large complexes with regard to safeguarding the animals. Scientists who studied this problem drew the conclusion that the overall resistance of hogs to the causative agents of infectious and invasion-type diseases is becoming weaker at the large hog breeding enterprises. The desire to raise this weak resistance using various

various chemical and biological preparations quite often not only fails to promote the development and strengthening of natural resistance to harmful factors, but in fact it can lead to a further weakening of this resistance. Thus at the complexes they began recording those diseases which, under the extensive methods for hog maintenance, are encountered only rarely or not at all. In particular, there was a high incidence of respiratory diseases in the hogs, paratyphoids and pasteurellosis.

Under industrial hog breeding conditions, a typical feature of microbiosis is the predominance of secondary microflora (coliform bacteria, salmonella, pasteurella, cocci, mycoplasma, latent viruses and so forth) over the primary microflora, owing to a change in the classic microbe balance. The scientists also established the fact that a less intense and prolonged immunity develops in the animals under industrial hog breeding conditions.

Many leaders and specialists in the various areas are convinced that the principal means for improving the safeguarding of the animals lies in the preparation and use of vaccines, serums and also through the construction of capital reserve areas so as to increase the periods for weaning and sanitary disruptions when filling the facilities. Certainly, this method is acceptable and yet it requires an extended amount of time and large capital investments.

Nevertheless it should be recognized that we still do not have effective vaccines, the creation of which requires an extended period of time, and especially against virus diseases. Here we must find the means for raising the natural resistance of the hog organism.

Experience accumulated over a period of many years in hog breeding operations on large farms, both in our country and abroad, reveals that we are not attaching sufficient importance to one important technological method for pork production -- summer camp maintenance. At such camps, the hogs spend a large portion of their time in movement, in the fresh air and under the sun's rays. All of this has a beneficial effect on digestion, the nervous system, blood circulation, it intensifies the work of the respiratory organs and the heart and it improves the metabolism, that is, it strengthens the organism of the animals. Camp maintenance also exerts a beneficial effect on the reproductive capabilities of the animals: there is an increase in sperm production and sexual activity in boars, ovulation is more vigorous in the sows, the fertilization percentage is raised and the offspring develop better. As a result, the offspring are born in greater numbers and they are more healthy.

With summer camp maintenance, the winter facilities can be cleaned since they no longer contain animals and it becomes possible to thoroughly disinfect these facilities and to carry out repair and modernization work.

The operational experience of such large hog breeding farms as the sovkhoses Progress, Pankratovskiy and 2d Pyatiletka in Penza Oblast, the Krasnaya Zvezda Sovkhoz in Kurgan Oblast and others reveals that the system of summer camp maintenance for hogs is a fine prophylactic means for combating various diseases in the animals.

Every attempt must be made to rapidly convert the entire reproduction process at the complexes over to camp maintenance. This is the most economic and rapid

method for solving the complicated problems which exist at the present time in connection with the safeguarding of hogs at large enterprises. Stable work by the enterprises and all of the collectives and an evaluation of the work of the complexes are dependent upon how rapidly and efficiently this work is carried out.

Many of the complexes have already been in operation for more than 10 years. The machines and equipment installed in them have outlived their service life and are ready for complete replacement. At a number of enterprises -- Gornoural'skiy and imeni 50-Letiya SSSR in Gorkiy Oblast and Permskiy -- the planned replacement of machines and equipment has already commenced in individual facilities. However, at a majority of other complexes almost no action has been taken with regard to carrying out this work.

The modernization of the entire complex as a whole cannot be carried out. Thus in order to prevent the complexes from degenerating to an emergency state, plans must be composed for each farm which will allow them to replace this equipment by stages without halting the principal production effort. In conformity with this plan, it will be necessary to order plans for the technical re-equipping of individual pigsties and to include the carrying out of this work in the title lists.

At the same time, the same amount of attention should be given to introducing into operations a systematic-preventive system for the technical servicing and repair of equipment, which will make it possible to increase considerably the operational service life of that equipment.

One very serious problem for a majority of the complexes is the operation of the cleaning installations in the planned regimes and utilization of the farmyard manure runoff. These problems have been completely solved at the sovkhoses Luzinskiy, imeni 50-Letiya SSSR in Moscow Oblast and imeni 50-Letiya SSSR in Kalinin Oblast, where owing to the fine operation of the purification installations the farmyard manure runoff is applied fully to the soil. This is promoting an increase in the agricultural crop yields and it is ensuring reliable protection of the environment against contamination by waste waters.

One very important problem -- retaining permanent cadres of personnel and creating stable collectives of workers and specialists. The large complexes are in fact large and profitable economies which possess great potential for solving these problems. Although the leaders at the sovkhoses Luzinskiy, imeni 60-Letiya SSSR in Chelyabinsk Oblast, imeni 50-Letiya SSSR in Kalinin Oblast, Permskiy, Gornoural'skiy and a number of others use all of the means at their disposal for retaining personnel and stabilizing their collectives, this is by no means the case at all of the farms. Many farm leaders complain that it is impossible to retain on the complexes such workers as fitters, electricians, veterinary workers for the preparation and dosing of feed, workers attached to purification installations and other low-salary categories of workers. Here a great role can be played by the brigade form for labor organization, with payments based upon the final results, and also by the development of special conditions for the socialist competition for having achieved certain operational indicators. For the purpose of retaining personnel, the leading farms are making extensive use of privileges granted in connection with payments for municipal services, the ahead-of-schedule presentation of places for children at kindergartens and nurseries and advantages in connection with the

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maintenance of these facilities, the presentation of tourist and sanatorium passes, the sale of dinners in the dining halls of sovkhoses at reduced prices or free of charge and also the sale of meat to workers from the public catering fund or using meat obtained from special subsidiary departments, quite often in cooperation with industrial enterprises.

In the successful carrying out of the plans and socialist obligations for the production and sale of pork to the state and achieving a further increase in the procurement volumes for this type of meat prior to the end of the five-year plan, a very important role will be played by specialized hog breeding kolkhoses and sovkhoses and large state hog breeding complexes.

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CSO: 1824/81

LIVESTOCK

KAZAKH LIVESTOCK SECTOR PROBLEMS, FOLLOW-UP COMMENTARIES

Procurement, Production Coordination Faulted

Alma-Ata SEL'SKOYE KHOZYAYSTVO KAZAKHSTANA in Russian No 5, May 84 pp 16-17

[Article by N. Sergeyev, Kokchetav Oblast: "A Disparity"]

[Text] Difficult tasks are now being solved by the workers on farms in Krasnoarmeyskiy Rayon, tasks which because they were not carried out last year caused the state to be undersupplied in terms of a considerable quantity of animal husbandry products. Thus the debt which developed must be made up and increases must take place both in the number of cattle and in the weight gains. This year the workers in Krasnoarmeyskiy Rayon have adopted tense obligations: to supply the country with 7,240 tons of meat and to achieve an average daily weight increase for the cattle during fattening of 500 grams. They plan on delivering more than 9,000 head to the meat combine.

The fattening of the cattle is concentrated mainly at the rayspetskhob"yedeniye. The animals are delivered here from many farms for maturing and fattening. The association does not have its own plan for the sale of meat to the state. But it must organize the cattle fattening operations in a manner so as to ensure that the plans are fulfilled by each farm and by the rayon on the whole.

How is this work proceeding here? It should be stated directly that the campaign to implement these plans has commenced and is being carried out under difficult conditions. The principal reason -- the weak nature of the feed base. Last summer, owing to drought conditions, the required volumes of hay, haylage and silage were not procured. The amount of feed required for the cattle delivered for fattening should have been shipped to the RSKhO by the sovkhob-share holders in accordance with an agreement. But their forage supplies were low and thus they were unable to fulfill this obligation. Obviously, such a violation of the agreement does not benefit the work. And certain conclusions must be drawn from such a sad lesson. Just as in the rayspetskhob"yedeniye, so also on each farm, additional measures should be planned and implemented this spring aimed at strengthening the feed base, with consideration being given to the creation of a substantial insurance supply of forage.

All efforts by the RAPO [Rayon agroindustrial association] must be channeled in this direction. The RAPO is still not persistently striving to solve this

important problem and it is devoting very little attention to the effective utilization of feed lands, to setting up feed production as a specialized branch or to introducing the use of a collective contract within the branch. Last year, only 13 corn production teams worked on a straight salary basis and at the Oktyabr'skiy and Zarechnyy sovkhoses there were no such teams whatsoever.

But is not the following example convincing enough? At the Sovkhoz imeni Kirov, the team headed by V. Cherenkov, which is responsible for 600 hectares of arable land, converted over to the contract method. By employing zonal agricultural practices and tending its plantation in a fine manner, it obtained 137 quintals of fodder per hectare -- 20 quintals more than the all-sovkhoz indicator -- even under drought conditions. Similar facts have surfaced regarding teams engaged in hay procurement operations.

This year the plans call for six more feed procurement teams to convert over to the contract method. And certainly this is only the minimum.

However, let us return to the routine of the spetskhozob'yedineniye. Here the cattle continue to arrive and in order to feed them forage must be brought in from the side. Assistance is received from a feed preparation shop, where a considerable portion of the feed is processed, thus raising its assimilability.

But the chief consideration and one which makes it possible to safeguard and fatten the cattle -- the work performed by the personnel. There are many experts within the association who view the production of meat and tending the animals as routine work and the essence of life. On the farm we met with M. Moldybayev, who heads a cattle fattening team. This team numbers five cattle farm workers and they service the same number of animals as were previously tended by 9 individuals.

"We were among the first to convert over to the contract method" stated M. Moldybayev, "The decision was made during a council meeting for each individual to accept an additional workload. This made it possible to release personnel for work in other sectors. We are coping with the work and we are being aided by the equipment which each of us mastered. Thus we are combining operations, we are placing a high value on time and we are raising labor productivity.

The team performs in a harmonious manner and utilizes each kilogram of feed in a thrifty manner. Last year it obtained 419 grams of average daily weight gain -- 90 grams more than the figure for the brigade as a whole. Roughly 15.2 quintals of feed units were expended per quintal of weight increase, compared to the all-union indicator of 18.4 quintals. Certainly, the results are by no means impressive. The association's rations are not balanced in terms of nutrients and the feed is too expensive.

But we still have not touched upon all of the problems. During a talk with the team leader and his comrades, it developed that a portion of the weight increase is being lost -- during the delivery to and the processing of the cattle at the meat combine. In short, for reasons not associated with the cattle farm workers. This fact is somewhat alarming.

As already emphasized, each kilogram of weight increase realized on the farm is obtained only with considerable difficulty. In particular, concern must be displayed for ensuring that no reduction takes place in the weight or state of nourishment of animals delivered for slaughtering. And if this occurs, then harm is sustained by both the state and the farm. A reduction takes place in the meat yield and also in the payment for a fattened animal. This infringes upon the interests of the cattle farm workers, who maintain with some justification that the meat combines should display greater responsibility for accepting and processing the animals.

It can be stated directly that this is not a new problem. Nor has it been removed from the agenda. The leaders, specialists and cattle farm workers at many sovkhoses, kolkhoses and raypetskhosob'yedineniye throughout the oblast have expressed some concern over the fact that today the relationships of the farms with the meat combines are not in keeping with the requirements of the times or the tasks set forth in the Food Program. Moreover, emphasis should be placed upon the need for having the partners solve this urgent problem and perform not only in behalf of their own economic interests. In addition, they must find the means for ensuring the rapid acceptance and delivery of the fattened cattle for processing. As yet, the initiative being displayed in this regard by the leaders and specialists of the meat combines is only slight.

What is the essence of the problem? The leaders of the kolkhoses, sovkhoses and spetskhosob'yedineniye are proposing that the cattle procurements be carried out at the site according to live weight. In other words, we have in mind the establishment of truly direct contacts and the centralized shipping of the fattened animals.

This problem was raised during a meeting of the council of the oblast's agroindustrial association, which in late February of this year examined the question entitled "The Status of and Measures for Improving the Acceptance and Processing of Cattle Throughout the Oblast In Light of the Requirements of the May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee." Here it was mentioned that the processing volumes for cattle in live weight have increased at the meat combines. Increases have also taken place in the production of meat, sub-products of the 1st category and in sausage products. The first several thousand tons of cattle have been shipped from the sovkhoses and kolkhoses by these enterprises. However the established task for the conversion last year of 60 farms over to direct contacts for the acceptance of animals at the site and their shipment by vehicles supplied by the procurement agency remains unfulfilled.

The following point was emphasized in an official reference: "In connection with the acceptance of cattle by meat combines from farms throughout the oblast, the cattle and poultry are often held over too long and the conditions required for the pre-slaughtering maintenance of the animals are not created, as a result of which losses take place in live weight and also in meat during processing and compared to the control weight."

These then are the facts. In November of last year, the Kokchetav raypetskhosob'yedineniye delivered 100 head of cattle at a live weight of 37,790 kilograms to the meat combine of the same name. Following the slaughtering, the live weight indicated on the receipt was 36,254 kilograms,

reflecting a loss of 1,531 kilograms. Thus this loss, when broken down, amounted to more than 15 kilograms per head. Certainly, this was a waste. In order to achieve such a weight increase using a meagre ration, it would be necessary to feed and tend a young bull for more than a month. But here we are speaking about only 100 animals. Moreover, if we divide the 1,531 kilograms by the average delivery weight of 378 kilograms, then it becomes clear that four of the one hundred young bulls were "lost."

In January of this year, 100 head of hogs were delivered to the Peskinskiy Meat Combine from the Takhtabrodskiy Sovkhoz in Shistopolskiy Rayon. According to the herd register, their weight amounted to 9,690 kilograms. Following the slaughtering work, this weight fell to 9,086 kilograms, a loss of 604 kilograms or 6 kilograms per hog. Similar phenomena were noted at the Shchuchinsk Meat Combine. Naturally, such incidents affect the final results substantially -- the delivery of the meat and meat products to the trade network.

At the Shchuchinsk Meat Combine, not enough measures are being undertaken aimed at organizing waste-free production operations. There have been instances of cattle being utilized based only upon a decision by an enterprise's workers, with the farm representatives not participating in the work of drawing up the documents.

In carrying out a thorough analysis of the status of affairs, the council of the oblast APO /agroindustrial association/ addressed some serious complaints against the general director of the oblast production association of the meat industry G.R. Fedenev and demanded that he undertake the measures required for eliminating the existing shortcomings. At the same time, it was pointed out that representatives of oblsel'khozupravleniye, the inspection for procurements and the quality of agricultural products and also representatives of the supplier-farms had resigned themselves to the derelictions prevailing at enterprises of the meat industry and were not displaying proper exactingness with regard to management of the meat combines, particularly with regard to violations of the system for the pre-slaughtering maintenance of cattle and the cattle processing technology.

In short, an evaluation was provided on the disparity between the contacts and the tasks. But not all of the "i's" had been dotted. The serious derelictions in the work of the Kokchetav Oblast Production Association of the meat industry also included unfinished work by the republic's Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry, which is only weakly organizing and directing the work of subordinate associations and enterprises in converting them over to direct contacts with the sovkhozes and kolkhozes and organizing the waste-free processing of agricultural products in the interest of achieving better final results. Sluggishness must be eliminated and the work organized in a more energetic manner, as required in the decisions handed down during the 12th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Kazakhstan.

This year, by way of an experiment, the oblast's plans call for a number of farms to be converted over to having their cattle accepted at the site by the meat combines and for the centralized shipping of the animals in volumes of not less than 14,000 tons. Towards this end, the production association of the

meat industry must train the required number of skilled consignee-procurement specialists for cattle on those farms to which the specialized motor vehicles have been assigned. The cattle are accepted strictly according to a schedule and the accounting for them (also by way of an experiment) -- according to weight and state of nourishment directly on the farms.

Corresponding work must be carried out on an urgent basis on those farms where direct contacts are being established. Here importance is attached to the preparation of spur tracks leading up to the receiving-delivery areas for the cattle, the weighing equipment in a heated facility, pens in which to sort out the animals and loading platforms and ramps.

These specific measures, defined by the council of the oblast APO, must now be carried out in a practical manner. Certainly, the principal responsibility for their implementation is borne by the leaders and specialists of the meat combines and farms. But success in this work is hardly dependent only upon administrative-organizational work. Experience testifies to the fact that mutual responsibility by partners in achieving a common goal produces results when the collectives, the direct executive agents in the production sectors, strive to achieve this goal while displaying a deeper awareness of their obligations. Thus importance is attached to instilling a respectful attitude towards contractual obligations, developing a competition among partners and achieving a psychological reorientation. However, some party organizations and their ideological aktiv are still not devoting adequate attention to this problem and they are acting without taking into account those changes which became a reality with the creation of agroindustrial associations.

In emphasizing the need for further improving the work of meat combines in the acceptance and processing of cattle, it would be wrong to pass over in silence the question concerning rhythmic deliveries of the animals to these enterprises. This is particularly true in view of the fact that planned development is not always ensured here. Thus, compared to the average for the first quarter of this year, the cattle delivery volume planned for 3 months for the meat combines was fulfilled by 45 percent. The indicator for last year -- 54 percent. Attention is also drawn to the following contrasts: whereas during this period the farms in Kuybyshevskiy Rayon carried out their quarterly task by 92 percent, in Kellerovskiy Rayon -- by 14, Volodarskiy Rayon -- by 20 and Chkalovskiy Rayon -- by 21 percent. The plan for cattle deliveries to the Kokchetav Meat Combine was fulfilled by only 41 percent.

Naturally, direct contacts require coordinated actions and mutual responsibility on the part of the partners for carrying out the common task. A lack of coordination or problems in any of the elements will invariably be reflected throughout the entire chain in this relationship. Thus the contractual obligations must be carried out in a very strict manner, while searching for the required reserves and displaying a creative attitude towards the work and discipline.

This year the plans call for more than 109,000 tons of cattle and poultry to be procured throughout the oblast. The average delivery weight for the cattle must be 416 kilograms, sheep -- 41, hogs -- 105 kilograms. The number of cattle in the public sector must be increased to 595,000 head. By the end of the year, there must be not less than 653,300 sheep, 273,300 hogs and 54,000 horses.

These goals must be sought in a persistent manner, while strengthening the relationship between the rural meat shops and the meat combines. But the initial months of the year reveal that not enough measures are being taken to increase the meat resources. Somewhat alarming also is the fact that the indicators for intensification of the branch have fallen. Compared to last year, a noticeable reduction (by 20-30 or more kilograms) has taken place in the average delivery weight for cattle being delivered to meat combines by farms in Valikhanovskiy, Kellerovskiy, Leninskiy, Leningrad and other rayons. Many low-weight hogs and sheep have been shipped by sovkhoses and kolkhoses in Enbekshilderskiy Rayon.

What about the weight gains. They are lower than those planned. They amounted to less than 50 grams per head of cattle in Valikhanovskiy Rayon. For the oblast as a whole, they have declined by 23 grams compared to last year's level.

The meat resources are decreasing owing to losses and the unproductive use of the animals. For example, in Chistopolskiy Rayon, during a period of just 2 months, 600 sheep were withdrawn from operations. A considerable loss in cattle was tolerated in Valikhznovskiy Rayon. A loss in animals causes considerable harm to animal husbandry. This cannot be tolerated. Importance is attached not only to protecting the existing animals but also to increasing the herds and flocks by means of newly born young stock.

How well are the enterprises of the oblast association of the meat industry performing? Here also there are problems with regard to the meat production line. Compared to the level for last year, the task for marketable output for the first 2 months of this year was fulfilled by only 64.4 percent.

In short, continuous operation of the meat production line is not being achieved in the oblast. But opportunities exist here for increasing meat production and improving the acceptance and processing of the cattle. In solving these tasks, the efforts of the collectives of farms and meat combines must be joined more closely and concern for this fact must be displayed primarily by the party committees and the councils of the rayon and oblast agroindustrial associations.

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Response of Kazakh Minister

Alma-Ata SEL'SKOYE KHOZYAYSTVO KAZAKHSTANA in Russian No 5, May 84 pp 16-17

/Article by A. Utegenov, deputy minister of the Meat and Dairy Industry of the Kazakh SSR: "A Disparity"/

/Text/ In the article entitled "A Disparity" (Issue No 5 for 1984 of SEL'SKOYE KHOZYAYSTVO KAZAKHSTANA), the shortcomings in organizing the delivery, acceptance, processing and centralized shipping of cattle were described quite correctly. Under the conditions of the agroindustrial complex, these shortcomings must be eliminated through the efforts of all interested organizations.

In fulfillment of the instructions handed down by the Council of Ministers of the Kazakh SSR, the Peskinskiy, Shchuchinsk and Kokchetav meat combines of the

Kokchetav Production Association of the meat industry have been converted over to the acceptance and accounting for cattle procured from sovkhoses and other state enterprises only on the basis of the amount and quality of the animal meat obtained from processing. This was preceded by a great amount of preparatory work. Controlled animal slaughterings were carried out for the purpose of developing conversion coefficients. Modernization work was carried out on bases for the pre-slaughtering maintenance of cattle and on departments, with such work ensuring protection for the number and quality of animals prior to slaughtering and eliminating a lack of personal responsibility for them and for the carcasses obtained prior to the moment of weighing and transferring from the slaughtering shop to a cooler.

The method which existed earlier in the oblast for the delivery and acceptance of cattle according to live weight and for determining their state of nourishment organoleptically or "by eye" is not objective and is creating disagreements among the cattle suppliers and receivers.

The live weight of animals is an extremely unstable value, subject as it is to considerable fluctuations depending upon the sex, state of nourishment, livestock strains, climatic conditions and other factors. Thus opportunities are appearing for all types of abuses aimed at the artificial inflating of live weight through over-feeding and watering of the animals.

In recent years, as a result of joint studies carried out by VNIIMP /All-Union Scientific Research Institute of the Meat Industry/ and VIZh /All-Union Scientific Research Institute of Livestock Breeding/, it has been established that the live weight of animals does not reflect the true amount and quality of the meat delivered to the state and cannot serve as a criterion for evaluating cattle, since it is subject to sharp fluctuations and is dependent to a considerable degree upon the fullness of the gastro-intestinal tract. During transport alone, depending upon the distance and pre-slaughtering aging, the live weight of cattle decreases to 8 percent, small cattle -- to 12 and hogs -- to 6.5 percent, with no actual losses in meat.

For animals of identical bulk, the difference in weight in meat carcasses obtained during processing reaches 50 kilograms per head of cattle. A determination of the state of nourishment of animals by touch leads to an average mandatory resorting of 8-10 percent compared to the state of nourishment of cattle obtained following slaughtering and accordingly to incorrect monetary payments. The weight of the stomach contents of cattle in the case of over-feeding reaches 50-60 kilograms, or 12-15 percent of the overall weight of one head.

Cattle are presently being accepted in the oblast according to meat yield, following controlled slaughtering and a determination of the quality indicators of the carcass. This method is not holding back the development of the method of accepting cattle directly in the production areas. The system for the centralized shipping of cattle directly from the farms is defined in the instruction entitled "The System for Accepting Agricultural Products From Inter-Farm Enterprises (Organizations) On the Basis of Direct Contacts and Directly in the Production Areas," approved by an order of the USSR Ministry of Procurements and the USSR Ministry of Agriculture.

The instruction indicates that when cattle are accepted according to the quantity and quality of meat, with the shipment carried out using transport equipment of the procurement organization, the driver-receiver accepts the cattle which are prepared in advance according to the number of head, checks the presence of earmarks or tags on the animals, ensures that the accompanying documents are filled out correctly and that the entries conform to the actual cattle available, makes a notation in the herd records on the results of the weighing operation and ensures that the loading and placement of the animals in the motor vehicle are carried out correctly. Once the loading has been completed and the herd record filled out, the cattle are considered to have been accepted in terms of number of head and responsibility for its safeguarding is borne by the procurement specialist. An extract of the acceptance receipt and computations for the cattle are carried out following the slaughtering of the animals at the meat combines, in terms of the quantity and quality of the meat obtained.

The difficulty associated with the general introduction of centralized cattle shipments directly from the farms derives from the fact that the oblast, which annually supplies for processing 76 percent of the overall number of cattle delivered, 19 percent of the hogs and 5 percent of the sheep, horses and poultry, is unable to ensure their deliveries on a regular basis, either by months or quarters of the year.

In the interest of activating work concerned with increasing the volumes of centralized cattle shipments, using transport equipment of the meat industry and that obtained from other organizations, the republic's Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry established a task for the acceptance and centralized delivery of cattle from farms to the Kokchetav Production Association of the meat industry, for 1984 in the volume of 14,000 tons, including 5,000 tons using motor transport equipment brought in from the side. As of 1 June, against a task calling for 2,800 tons, the association had accepted and shipped from the farms 2,400 tons, or 87 percent.

With regard to utilizing the transport equipment of other organizations for the centralized shipping of cattle, the ministry recommended that the association introduce the Stavropol method for using motor transport equipment, with acceptance of the drivers of the cattle carriers in accordance with the system for performing more than one task in industry and with the payment to them of 30 percent of the wage rate for the actual time worked, which is already being done in other oblasts throughout the republic. In the Kazakh SSR, the plans called for 38 farms in Arykbalykskiy, Zerendinskiy, Kokchetavskiy and Shchuchinskiy rayons in Kokchetav Oblast to be prepared and converted over to the delivery of cattle directly in the production areas during the 1973-1975 period. At the present time, only 10 farms have been prepared for converting over to direct contacts and for the most part the cattle are being shipped from farms which have not been prepared.

The Kokchetav Production Association was allocated 10 cattle carriers of the 386 presently available to the meat branch as a whole and this number is certainly inadequate. This year an additional five cattle carriers will be assigned to it.

In the interest of further improving the organization of procurements and the processing of animal husbandry products, an all-round program has been approved by Minsel'khoz /Ministry of Agriculture/, Minmyasomolprom /Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry/ and Minzag /Ministry of Procurements/ for the Kazakh SSR for introducing the following measures into the work of rayon and oblast agroindustrial associations:

...undertake specific measures for the mandatory preparation, coordination and approval, not later than 15 days prior to the beginning of each month, hourly calendar schedules for cattle deliveries, from the standpoint of each farm, with an indication as to the number and type of cattle, and taking into account the actual production capabilities of the attached enterprises of the meat industry;

...based upon the operational experience of other union republics, to create delivery groups at enterprises of the meat industry from among the skilled specialists, for the purpose of participating in and controlling the acceptance, processing, utilization and determination of the quality and quantity of the meat obtained and in the accounting for this meat;

...to establish effective control so as to ensure that animals which are traveling considerable distances are supplied with good quality coarse and concentrated feed and also that the animals are tended in a reliable manner;

...to accelerate the construction on the farms of hard surface access roads, loading and unloading scaffold bridges and weighing equipment, in the interest of ensuring acceptance of the cattle by the meat combines and their shipment by means of motor transport equipment obtained both from the meat industry and also from other organizations.

In order to ensure that action is taken on the critical comments contained in the article entitled "A Disparity," the Kazakh SSR Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry has required the general director of the Kokchetav Production Association of the meat industry to discuss the article within the enterprise's collective and to undertake measures aimed at immediately eliminating the existing shortcomings.

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Report of Area Official

Alma-Ata SEL'SKOYE KHOZYAYSTVO KAZAKHSTANA in Russian No 10, Oct 84 p 36

/Article by V. Zub, secretary of the Kokchetav Oblast Party Committee: "A Disparity"/

/Text/ The Kokchetav Oblast Party Committee reports that the shortcomings mentioned in the article entitled "A Disparity," published in the fifth issue of the journal, truly took place in the work of the Krasnoarmeyskiy rayspetskhozob'yedineniye. Owing to drought conditions last year, a number of farms were unable to obtain their full volume of coarse and succulent feed and, as a result, the average daily weight gain for the animals during the winter-stall maintenance period was low.

This year, in order to strengthen their feed base and achieve a balanced ration, the oblast's farms sowed grain mixtures on 125,000 hectares for feed purposes, fodder beets on more than 6,000 hectares and they expanded their sowing areas for pea-oats and pea-barley mixtures. Similar work was carried out at sovkhozes in Krasnoarmeyskiy Rayon.

Purposeful work was carried out this year at sovkhozes and kolkhozes throughout the oblast in connection with the procurement of feed and the construction and modernization of feed preparation shops and other feed preparation lines for the wintering of the livestock.

The party and soviet organs within the oblast are directing the efforts of the RAPO /rayon agroindustrial association/ councils and the farm leaders and specialists towards achieving more efficient use of their feed lands, establishing feed production as a specialized branch and introducing progressive forms for labor organization and wages and work in behalf of a single order into production operations.

All measures are being undertaken to ensure that the established tasks are over-fulfilled to a considerable degree this year, so as to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of the plans of the 11th Five-Year Plan for all types of animal husbandry products.

With each passing year, a greater number of sovkhozes and kolkhozes are converting over to direct contacts with the processing industry and this is raising considerably the responsibility of these enterprises for timely processing and for a reduction in non-productive losses in animal husbandry products.

Measures have been developed and are being carried out throughout the oblast in connection with converting farms over to direct contacts. However, owing to the weak logistical base of the oblast associations of the meat and dairy industry, this work is being carried out at a low tempo. Not enough assistance is being provided by the republic's Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry, which only weakly is directing the work of subordinate enterprises in converting them over to direct contacts with the farms, especially in the meat industry.

Measures are being undertaken to achieve waste-free production operations at the meat combines.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

MESYATS ON PROGRESS, PROBLEMS, GOALS OF AGRICULTURE

Moscow AGITATOR in Russian No 18, Sep 84 pp 28-32

Article by V. Mesyats, USSR Minister of Agriculture: "Towards New Goals"

Text During the 4th year of the 11th Five-Year Plan, our agricultural workers, in a united and tense rhythm with all workers throughout the country, are persistently striving to implement the historic designs of the 26th Party Congress.

Measures are consistently being carried out throughout the country directed towards converting the national economy over to the intensive path of development. The accelerated materialization of scientific achievements, the active spread of new forms for organization and wages and economic methods of management, increased responsibility and a strengthening of planning, state and production discipline -- all of these factors are having a positive effect with regard to raising the labor and political activity of the masses and improving the final production results.

The CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government are constantly devoting unremitting attention to the problems concerned with the all-round intensification of agricultural production and the successful implementation of the large scale tasks embodied in the Food Program. During the course of opening up the All-Union Economic Conference On the Problems of the Agroindustrial Complex, in March of this year, Comrade K.U. Chernenko once again emphasized that the party views concern for agricultural development not only as an economic but also as a priority socio-political task.

Tremendous amounts of financial and logistical resources are being allocated for solving this task. It is sufficient to state that during 4 years of the 11th Five-Year Plan the capital investments in agriculture will amount to 172 billion rubles, including 136 billion -- for the creation and strengthening of the production base and 36 billion -- for the social needs of the countryside. With each passing year, increases are taking place in the deliveries of new equipment, mineral fertilizers and chemical plant protective agents to the countryside. The power capabilities of agriculture have been increased to 689 million horsepower. This is almost 14 percent more than was available at the beginning of the five-year plan. The area of reclaimed land at kolkhozes and sovkhozes has been expanded to 33 million hectares.

Since the May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, large scale measures have been carried out in all areas directed towards raising the effectiveness of kolkhoz and sovkhoz production, strengthening the farm economies and improving control over all branches of the APK /agroindustrial complex/. Today it is quite correct to state that the all-round development of the productive forces of the rural areas and reliance upon the improved and efficient use of these forces serves as the foundation upon which our agriculture is confidently advancing along the path leading to intensification, as it overcomes the complicated weather conditions of recent years with fewer expenditures and losses and as it increases the production of the principal types of agricultural products.

The work and thoughts of the agricultural workers are subordinated to the one goal -- to satisfy more completely the country's requirements for food products and agricultural raw materials and to do everything possible to ensure fulfillment of the tense tasks of the Food Program. As is well known, the initial results of the implementation of this program were summarized during the All-Union Economic Conference.

This year the weather conditions in some regions of the country turned out to be extremely unfavorable. And this confronted the rural workers with many urgent problems and required the introduction of appropriate corrections into the farming strategy and tactics, in keeping with the specific situation, in order to weaken the negative consequences of the weather factors.

In practically all areas, the farmers carried out all of the spring field work in an organized manner. The spring grain crops were sown during the best periods and in a high quality manner. New varieties are being grown on 34 million hectares, 4 million more hectares than last year.

The introduction of the industrial technology is being expanded in field crop husbandry. This is borne out by the following data: corn was grown on 3,343,000 hectares using a progressive technology, sunflowers -- on 1,380,000, soybeans -- on 501,000, sugar beets -- on 2,225,000, potatoes and vegetables -- on 434,000 and flax -- on 260,000 hectares.

For the very first time, by way of an extensive production test, grain was grown on 20,000 hectares using an intensive technology and a constant technological track. For the most part, all of these areas were assigned to specific brigades and teams, all of which operated on the basis of a collective contract.

This year the agricultural workers are considerably better prepared for harvesting their crops. Harvest plans were prepared in advance on all of the farms, the implementation of which made it possible to raise the level of readiness of the harvesting and grain cleaning equipment compared to last year, to put in order the threshing floors and warehouse facilities, to repair the intra-farm roads and to determine the best transport routes for shipping the grain and other products. More than 162,000 harvesting-transport complexes and detachments were created at the kolkhozes and sovkhozes for the harvest period. In many rayons and oblasts, their work was organized based upon the principles for a watch work regime for the machine operators.

In other words, a distinctive feature of this current year is the fact that the party, soviet and agricultural organs have intensified their organizational and educational work among the agricultural collectives and they have attached new meaning to their persistent campaign directed towards raising the overall culture of farming and obtaining high final results. A considerable increase has taken place in the responsibility of the leaders and specialists of farms and agricultural organs for the unconditional fulfillment, during the 4th year of the five-year plan, of the established plans and obligations for selling all types of agricultural products to the state and for reducing to the maximum possible degree the indebtedness which developed during the 1981-1983 period.

Having launched a socialist competition honoring the 50th anniversary of the Stakhanov movement and the 40th anniversary of the victory, many oblasts, rayons, kolkhozes and sovkhozes have developed fine harvests for all of their agricultural crops and they are harvesting them as quickly as possible and without losses. Thus the Put' Kommunizma Kolkhoz in Timashevskiy Rayon in Krasnodar Kray harvested grain crops on an area of 5,800 hectares in just 7 working days. An average of 48.3 quintals of grain was obtained per hectare. The Kolkhoz imeni Sverdlov in Slobodzeyevskiy Rayon in Moldavia harvested its grain crops in just 8 days and obtained 58 quintals of grain per hectare. The harvesting work was completed in just 9-10 working days at the Urozhaynyy Sovkhoz and the Gigant Kolkhoz in Stavropolskiy Kray, the Kolkhoz imeni Tatarbunarskoye Vosstaniye and the Andreyevskiy Sovkhoz in Odessa Oblast, the kolkhozes imeni Kirov and imeni Shchors in Donetsk Oblast and the Entuziast Sovkhoz and the Kolkhoz imeni Kalinin in Zaporozhye Oblast. Many more such examples could be cited.

Increases are taking place in the yields of strong and valuable wheat grain. As of 10 August, farms in the Russian Federation had added 3,953,000 tons of high quality wheat to the state's resources. The situation is being corrected with regard to the production of strong and valuable wheats on farms in the Ukraine, which sold 2,400,000 tons of such grain to the state. The farmers in Kazakhstan and Siberia are increasing their deliveries of this grain.

Fine yields are being obtained this year from the vegetable and potato plantations. The established tasks for procuring vegetables and potatoes and improvements in making these products available to the population can be carried out provided the harvesting and procurement work is carried out in an efficient manner and proper protection and timely processing are assured.

The front of the sugar beet harvesting operations is expanding with each passing day. The harvesting of this crop in the principal beet growing regions is also good. And importance is now being attached to accelerating the rates for digging up, shipping from the fields and processing the sweet roots.

The farmers are continuing to devote attention to their feed procurement work. Owing to the fact that an abundant amount of precipitation fell in almost all areas during July and August, favorable conditions appeared out on the feed fields for obtaining a full-weight second cutting of perennial grasses and also for increasing the corn and fodder beet yields. This made it possible to place in storage a considerably greater amount of succulent feed and particularly mixed silage.

The country's livestock breeders are performing very fruitful work. They are striving to consolidate and multiply the successes achieved in 1983. By 1 August and compared to the same period for last year, the meat purchases had increased by 766,000 tons, milk -- by 1.8 million tons and eggs -- by 942 million units.

Moreover, the entire increase in the production of livestock products was achieved by means of intensive factors. The average milk yield per forage cow in the public sector increased by 25 kilograms. The average delivery weight for one head of cattle was raised by 10 and that for hogs -- by 2 kilograms. At the same time, increases took place in the number of animals and improvements were noted in the ability to protect them. All of this is creating real prerequisites for carrying out the annual plans for procuring animal husbandry products.

At the same time, the overall situation in agriculture is still not satisfactory. Despite the measures undertaken, the results being achieved at many kolkhozes are still lower than those planned.

Nor is this situation the result only of the weather conditions. Technological and production discipline is still low on some farms and, as a result, the land is being utilized inefficiently -- our principal resource -- the equipment is not being operated at the proper level, fertilizer is being distributed and applied in an inefficient manner and the campaign against weeds and plant pests and diseases is being carried out in an untimely manner and on a low quality basis. Substantial derelictions are taking place in animal husbandry, where the productivity of the livestock is still increasing only slowly and barrenness in the brood stock and animal losses are being tolerated. Such mismanagement and lack of responsibility, which in a number of areas is not being evaluated properly, results in a considerable shortfall in output. Moreover, in some regions and oblasts the indebtedness of farms in terms of grain, sunflower, sugar beet, meat and milk sales to the state is increasing rather than decreasing.

The rapid elimination of existing shortcomings, a considerable increase in the return from the production-technical potential created in the rural areas and the active placing in operation of internal reserves and potential, that is, the accelerated conversion of all branches of agriculture over to the intensive path of development -- this then is today's most vital and most urgent task.

A central and key problem, the solving of which requires a concentration of forces and resources, has been and continues to be that of increasing the production of grain.

As is known, the grain campaign is being waged under stern natural climatic conditions in a majority of the regions of our country. For the purpose of accelerating its intensification, overcoming substantial fluctuations in the gross grain yields by years and achieving more stable growth in these yields, science and practical experience have developed and are mastering on an extensive scale zonal systems of farming. In recent years, much has been accomplished in this regard: the structure of sowings is being improved, efficient crop rotation plans are being introduced into operations, industrial

seed production is being organized, an increase is taking place in the areas occupied by highly intensive varieties, anti-erosion soil cultivation is replacing the traditional method on a more extensive scale, applications of organic and mineral fertilizer in behalf of grain crops are increasing, better use is being made of reclaimed lands and more use is being made of industrial technologies. At the same time, a close and effective link between science and production has by no means been achieved in all areas. Thus it is by no means an accident that many farms are sustaining losses as a result of unfavorable weather conditions.

This is why decisive measures are being undertaken at the present time, with the latest scientific achievements being taken into account, aimed at improving the zonal systems of farming and ensuring that they are mastered completely on each farm and by all of the brigades and teams. Here major emphasis is being placed upon raising the effectiveness of fallow land and upon the active introduction into use on these lands of an intensive technology for the cultivation of grain crops. The new technology is based upon the use of highly productive and lodging-resistant varieties, achieving a normal acidity and a nutrient balance in the soil, a split application of nitrogen combined with growth stimulants and upon an integrated system for protecting the plants against pests, diseases and weeds.

The experience accumulated this year has shown that the intensive technology, under any conditions, makes it possible to obtain high winter grain crop yields from fallow land. For example, in Tambov and Lipetsk oblasts the increase in yield per hectare, compared to the usual technology, amounted to 10-15 quintals and in Moscow and Ivano-Frankovsk oblasts and in Krasnodar and Stavropol krais -- 20-30 quintals.

During a meeting of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, the question of increasing grain production through the intensive use of clean fallow and the introduction of progressive technologies was examined. In conformity with the decree adopted concerning this question, the use of an intensive and improved technology for cultivating winter crops will be expanded to 6.4 million hectares in behalf of next year's harvest. Importance is being attached at the present time to ensuring that technological discipline is observed in a very strict manner over this entire area. This will make it possible to obtain 1 million additional tons of grain.

In addition, the plans call for spring grain crops to be planted on 9.2 million hectares of fallow land in 1985 in the regions of northern Kazakhstan, the Urals and Siberia. At the present time, everything is being done to ensure that these lands are prepared well, that they are given a top dressing of mineral and organic fertilizer and that all of the autumn-winter agrotechnical measures are carried out on them in a timely manner.

Included among the daily concerns of the farmers is the need for expanding the volumes of soil-protective tilling of the fields. The complete introduction of this system, as borne out by the example of Kazakhstan and many regions in Siberia, the Urals and the Ukraine, furnishes not less than 2-3 additional quintals of grain per hectare. This year approximately 50 million hectares were tilled using non-mouldboard moisture-retaining implements. In the future, as

the farms become better supplied with the necessary equipment, use of the anti-erosion soil cultivation method will increase to 65 million hectares.

Mineral fertilizers constitute the largest reserve for increasing grain production. Unfortunately, even with their deliveries being increased (and this year the rural areas will receive approximately 23 million tons of mineral fertilizer), the amount of fertilizer being applied in behalf of the grain crops is clearly inadequate. At the same time, it is a well known fact that grain crops respond very generously to mineral fertilizer applications: each kilogram of nutrient furnishes an increase of from 4 to 6.1 kilograms of grain. This year a firm program is being followed aimed at redistributing the fertilizer in a manner such that in 1985 it will be possible to apply a full value mineral top dressing to the entire grain crop area. At the same time, opportunities are being sought for making more extensive use of progressive methods for applying mineral fertilizer -- local, strip and others -- methods which will ensure a sharp increase in their effectiveness and a high return in the form of yield.

Well aware that the stable development of grain production is inseparably associated with a high culture of land management, the agricultural workers are concentrating their efforts on raising the level of their agricultural practices on all of the grain fields, improving the quality of the grain being produced and reducing grain losses to a minimum.

In addition to increasing the production of grain, effective measures are being carried out aimed at increasing the gross yields of sugar beets, sunflowers, cotton and flax, potatoes and vegetables. And here also everything is subordinated to the chief goal -- to ensure the development of high yields based upon strict observance of the agrotechnical requirements, well organized industrial seed production operations, the rapid movement out onto the fields of highly productive varieties and hybrids and the correct and efficient application of mineral and organic fertilizers.

Just as in the past, an important front of work in the rural areas is that of animal husbandry. The main path to be followed for improving it -- maximum intensification. Real opportunities are available for accomplishing this. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes have at their disposal a large contingent of pedigree livestock and poultry. Highly mechanized and automated complexes and poultry factories have been built or are under construction in all of the republics, krais and oblasts, farm modernization is being carried out and the farms are being supplied with modern equipment. Efficient technologies and progressive methods for organizing production are being mastered in an active manner. Pedigree improvements are being carried out on a large scale including, as the specialists refer to it, the holsteinization of the dairy herd. Work is also being carried out aimed at accelerating the reproduction of highly productive animals using the method of transplanted embryos. Planned improvements are being carried out in zootechnical and veterinary services.

The social-psychological climate on the farms and complexes is changing: in the majority of instances these facilities are staffed by experienced and knowledgeable cadres of livestock breeders -- masters of machine milking, operators, brigade leaders, machine operators and others, all of whom are capable of solving the large and complicated tasks confronting the branch.

The achievements of leading workers convincingly testify to the tremendous reserves which are at the disposal of modern animal husbandry. For example, a leading operator at the Kolkhoz imeni Chapayev in Sverdlovsk Oblast, A.I. Bun'kov, during a period of 6 months this year, obtained an average daily weight increase of 960 grams during the fattening of young cattle stock and achieved a 100 percent safeguarding of the animals. A milkmaid at the Put' K Kommunizmu Kolkhoz in Gomel Oblast in the Belorussian SSR, L.N. Kazakova, over a period of 6 months obtained 3,500 kilograms of milk from each cow assigned to her care and a milkmaid at the Adazhi Kolkhoz in Rizhskiy Rayon in the Latvian SSR, E.P. Mitrikis -- 3,686 kilograms per cow.

In other words, a good foundation has been created for further increasing the production of animal husbandry products. The situation in feed production is being improved noticeably; this is a decisive factor with regard to the intensive development of the branch. The production of coarse and succulent feed is increasing and the quality of this feed is improving.

However, a great amount of work still remains to be carried out in the production of feed. Accordingly, work is continuing at the kolkhozes and sovkhozes directed towards improving the structure of the feed fields, expanding the sowings of perennial grasses, especially alfalfa and clover, and also pulse crops -- peas, vetch, lupine -- and achieving efficient use of the natural feed lands. Only if such an approach is employed will the farms be able to procure greater quantities of coarse and succulent feed, satisfy the animal husbandry requirements for such feed and reduce the consumption of grain for feed purposes.

In working out the structure for the forage crops, special attention is being given to expanding the areas to be used for rape, which is both an oil-bearing and highly productive crop from a feed standpoint. Experience has shown that its use in cattle rations increases substantially the productivity of cows and raises the fat content of the milk.

The procurements of mixed silage are increasing. On many farms, it constitutes 25-30 percent of the feed ration for hogs, as a result of which a similar reduction is realized in the consumption of concentrated feed.

In displaying concern for the guaranteed production of feed on reclaimed lands, importance is attached to disseminating in a more rapid and effective manner the experience of those leading workers who are obtaining 2-3 forage crop yields annually under irrigation conditions and who are realizing a yield of 80-100 quintals of feed units per hectare.

As a rule, the animal husbandry requirements for diverse high quality feeds are best met on those farms where a branch character is attached to feed production. This is why priority importance is today being attached to work carried out in this direction.

During the All-Union Economic Conference, it was emphasized in particular that the successful implementation of the Food Program is unthinkable in the absence of fixed attention being given to the problems concerned with the kolkhoz and sovkhoz economies. Here a very important role is played by internal economic accounting. Its introduction into operational practice does not

require any additional resources, it is available to each farm and it makes it possible to increase the production of goods, reduce expenditures and raise profitability, that is, to make the most use of the favorable economic conditions created in the rural areas by the decisions handed down during the May (1982) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

At the present time, cost accounting at a majority of the agricultural enterprises has become a principal means for strengthening their economies. The problem now consists of ensuring that it is employed in all areas. This is one of the main responsibilities of the agroindustrial associations, agricultural organs and the farm leaders and specialists.

The mastering of new and progressive forms for organization and wages and particularly the collective contract is promoting high production efficiency. This year, as a result of purposeful work on the part of the party, soviet and agricultural organs, the number of contractual subunits at kolkhozes and sovkhozes has increased by twofold compared to 1983. The brigades and teams which operate on the basis of a contract cultivated agricultural crops on an area of 80 million hectares of arable land. They serviced 36 percent of the sheep, 13 percent of the hogs and 10 percent of the overall number of cows.

The collective contract is actively being introduced into operations in Belgorod, Bryansk, Orel, Kaliningrad, Tomsk, Kherson, Cherkassy, Gomel and Surkhan-Darya oblasts. The names of a number of leaders of contractual brigades and teams which achieved high indicators under all types of weather conditions are well known: USSR State Prize laureate A.N. Kolesnik of the Kolkhoz imeni Frunze in Belgorod Oblast, Hero of Socialist Labor Ye.A. Yakovlev and A.I. Gurina of the Mir Kolkhoz in Kalinin Oblast, L.P. Gorbatenko of the Kolkhoz imeni Michurin in Dnepropetrovsk Oblast, L.Ya. Shlemin of the Pobeda Kolkhoz in Nikolayev Oblast and many others.

As a rule, all other conditions being equal (availability of equipment and other resources), labor productivity in contractual collectives is 20-25 percent higher. They produce 10-30 percent more goods, the production cost for which is 10-15 percent lower than in brigades which operate under the usual conditions. Thus the task consists of ensuring that the brigade contract method is given a green light for use in all branches of agriculture and in all production sectors.

Priority attention is being given to one vital problem -- accelerating scientific-technical progress in the rural areas. In this regard, a strong change is taking place aimed at strengthening the creative link between agricultural work collectives and workers attached to scientific institutes. Their joint efforts are now being concentrated on ensuring that all new and progressive works developed by science and leading practice are introduced into farming and animal husbandry practice on an extensive scale and provide maximum assistance in carrying out the Food Program.

It is interesting to note that in addition to the intensification of kolkhoz and sovkhoz production and improvements being carried out in all of its quality and economic indicators, solutions are being found for the social reorganization of the countryside. During the period which has elapsed since the May (1982)

Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, approximately 50 million square meters of housing space have been placed in operation in the rural areas, schools -- seats for 559,000 students, children's pre-school institutes -- for 390,000 children and clubs and palaces of culture -- for almost 350,000 persons. Medical services for the rural population have improved noticeably. The general educational and cultural level of rural workers has also been raised.

Wages and payments from the public consumption funds have increased. The conditions and nature of agricultural labor are drawing closer to industrial labor. This is providing favorable conditions for retaining personnel on their jobs and also for creating stable labor collectives. Instead of a withdrawal of manpower from the rural areas, an influx is being observed in many oblasts. And a point which is especially gratifying -- youth appears to be more willing to work in agriculture, the graduates of rural schools are electing to work on their native farms and they are accepting the labor baton from their mothers and fathers.

In short, the problem of retaining personnel on the farms is being solved successfully and the production results are more substantial and stable in those areas where fine working conditions have been created and good domestic routine and leisure activities organized for the population. And this requires that constant attention be given in the future to the social problems.

The entire scope of the problems associated with carrying out the tasks of the Food Program is reflected in the work being performed by the new organs of administration -- the agroindustrial associations. The 2 years following their creation naturally constitute only a brief interval of time. However, they are confidently increasing in strength in many regions of the country, they are accumulating experience in solving the problems confronting them and they are confirming the correctness and timeliness of the measures undertaken by the party aimed at improving the administration of agriculture and other branches of the agroindustrial complex.

At the present time, a tense work rhythm is continuing in the rural areas. In completing their harvest work, the farmers are displaying concern for establishing a reliable foundation for obtaining a good harvest for the next and final year of the 11th Five-Year Plan. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes are storing and processing seed, sowing winter crops, carrying out autumn plowing work and repairing their equipment. The livestock breeders are striving to take advantage of all of the opportunities available for supplementing the feed resources, they are maintaining very strict accounts for these resources and they are carrying out repairs on the feed preparation shops and feed kitchens such that, commencing with the very first days that the livestock are assigned to indoor maintenance, the feed will have been prepared, processed and enriched on each farm. Thus it will be possible on this basis to raise the productivity of the animals during the winter period.

In preparing for their own professional holiday, the rural workers are fully resolved to work in a creative and inspired manner in the future and to achieve new heights in carrying out the Food Program.

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AGRO-ECONOMICS AND ORGANIZATION

KOZLOV ON PROGRESS, PROBLEMS OF FRUIT, VEGETABLE COMPLEX

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 43, Oct 84 p 2

[Article by N.T. Kozlov, USSR minister of fruit and vegetable industry: "The Nation's Fruit and Vegetable Complex"]

[Text] Enterprises and organizations of the USSR Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Industry are in the 4th year. Our system includes 3,100 sovkhoses, around 400 canning and other processing enterprises more than 300 fruit and vegetable bases, around 8,000 specialized stores and a number of motor transport and procurement enterprises, construction and scientific research organizations.

The diagram shown here indicates how much vegetable, fruit and berry procurements by the ministry's organizations are to be increased this year. An active effort is presently underway to fulfill the plan. According to preliminary data, 8.5 million tons of vegetables and 2 million tons of fruits and berries have now been procured.

Unified management of the nation's fruit and vegetable complex is making it possible to efficiently redistribute food resources among regions with different bioclimatic capabilities and to improve the population's supply of fresh and processed fruits and vegetables.

Assuring high rates of production for potatoes, vegetables, fruits and grapes based on the systematic intensification of agricultural production is one of our main tasks.

A large number of management organization measures have been outlined for the successful accomplishment of this task. Among other things, a great deal of work is being done toward the regional specialization and concentration of raw material zones for the fruit and vegetable industry. In the nation's southern regions, for example, we have now built and are improving a base for the production of heat-loving fruits, vegetables, gourd crops and early potatoes to supply the populations of large cities and industrial centers in the European part, in Siberia, the Urals and the nation's northern regions. The processing industry and the storage base are also being intensively developed there. This zone provides more than half of the fruits and vegetables produced in the nation. In the future it is planned to obtain around 40 million tons, or 80 percent, of the entire increase in fruit and vegetable output, in this zone.

A great deal of attention is also being given to the problem of providing the population with potatoes, late vegetables, fruits and berries by producing them in the areas where they are consumed. This is making it possible to cut transportation significantly, which also reduces losses of products. Specialized zones are being set up for the production of commercial potatoes on an industrial basis in the Belorussian SSR, in Russia's Nonchernozem Zone and the Baltic republics. Potato and vegetable production is being developed rapidly in areas of Siberia and the Far East.

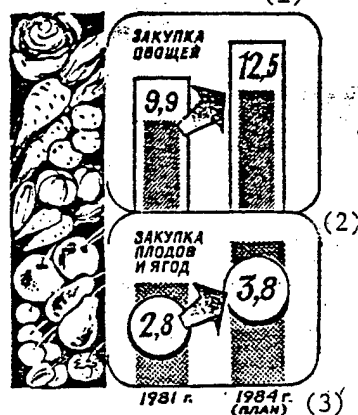
Steps taken in recent years to improve the materials and equipment base, to introduce modern industrial technologies and to improve the economic work have made it possible to achieve an overall increase in fruit and vegetable production. Our sovkhozes have increased gross harvests of potatoes, vegetables, fruits and grapes during the past 3 years. Fruit, vegetable and berry yields have been increased by an average of 10 quintals per hectare.

In order to retain product quality, mechanized receiving and grading points and receiving and procurement systems are located right on the specialized sovkhozes in the zones of large-scale production, where the acceptance, the grading and additional commodity processing are performed.

Special importance is attached to the matter of developing the most efficient processing and preserving method. The Food Program calls for increasing the output of canned fruits and vegetables to 11.4 million standard cans during the 11th five-year period and to 12.8 million by the end of the 12th.

These growth rates are basically being maintained. As specified by the assignment, production of canned baby food and dietetic food is also being increased, and the assortment of products put out by canning enterprises is being expanded by producing the canned goods in great demand by the population.

Vegetable, Fruit and Berry Procurement by Organizations of the USSR Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Industry (millions of tons)



Key:

1. Vegetable Procurement
2. Fruit and Berry Procurement
3. Plan

Success in preserving output, reducing losses and providing the population with a supply of fresh vegetables, fruits and potatoes, especially when these are out of season, depends in great part on the existence of a material and technical base and its condition, and upon the use of progressive storage methods. Unfortunately, there are still numerous cases in which fruits and vegetables are permitted to ruin while in storage at the bases because of negligence on the part of workers in those organizations.

Today, branch enterprises have various vegetable storage facilities at which 9.4 million tons can be stored at one time. Capacities have been increased by more than a million tons over the 1980 figure. Additional vegetable storage facilities with a capacity of 1,016,000 tons will be built before the end of the current five-year period.

The comprehensive approach to the accomplishment of tasks involved in developing the nation's fruit and vegetable industry is also making it possible to provide for the efficient distribution of storage facilities. A significant portion of these facilities have been built directly at large-scale production sites. This is cutting product losses and making it possible to reduce the quantity of motor transport equipment and workers enlisted during the season of large-scale delivery of fruits, vegetables and potatoes to the bases. A special program for the construction of these facilities has been worked out for the years immediately ahead.

The efficient organization of shipments and efficient use of the transport equipment constitute an extremely important link in the technological chain of the fruit and vegetable conveyor.

In the present situation of regional specialization and concentration of raw material zones for the production of fruits, vegetables and potatoes, the processing industry and storage bases, the ministry is optimizing the movement of products within the framework of the unified complex. This is reflected in a general shipment scheme worked out for the period extending to 1990. Its realization will produce a large effect by reducing losses of fruits and vegetables, by saving on transport costs and conserving fuel and energy.

A great deal is being done also to achieve effective use of the transport equipment itself. Fruits and vegetables are delivered by all types of transport today. The railway has the leading role with respect to large-scale shipments, however. Up to 7,000 cars are loaded each year during the heavy periods, and around a half-million cars in all are used for hauling vegetables, fruits and potatoes in a year. In the struggle to increase preservation of the fruits and vegetables, the main attention is therefore being devoted to the matter of cutting the amount of time required to deliver them by moving them more rapidly.

Special trains traveling on an accelerated schedule are made up for this purpose. A number of these trains is constantly increasing. The amount of time spent enroute by these trains is still two- to three-fold greater than for passenger trains, however, and the supply of refrigerated cars and their quality do not yet meet the demand.

Motor transport shipments are increasing by the year. This is reducing the number of transfers of the product and the time required for delivery, which is improving preservation of the product considerably. It is also becoming possible to deliver products directly to the stores, cutting losses to a minimum. By the end of the current five-year period the ministry's pool of refrigerated trucks will increase to 5,000, and these shipments will increase by 0.8 million tons over the 1981 figure.

Regular runs by special vegetable transport vessels, which have a cooling system and ventilation and can travel at higher speeds, have been started this year. They have linked the zones of large-scale production of vegetables and gourd crops on the Lower Volga with the large industrial regions of the Center in the nation's European part.

For purposes of better organizing trade and achieving fuller and better satisfaction of consumer demand for fruits and vegetables, a great deal of attention is being given to the development of a specialized network of trade enterprises and to the introduction of modern forms of service.

Extensive, small-scale retail trade is developed during the season of large-scale deliveries of fruits and vegetables. The system has 15,500 units. More than 450 fruit and vegetable stores are now operating at kolkhoz markets. The task of significantly expanding the trade areas of specialized stores and building a network of modern, technically outfitted trade enterprises, mainly in the new housing areas of industrial centers and large cities, is being set for the years immediately ahead.

The stores are being provided with special equipment for the extensive adoption of progressive forms of trade. This is making it possible to reliably preserve the product, to perform additional grading of the product before it is delivered to the trade areas and to package it for setting up self-service. More than 60 percent of the fruit and vegetable stores are serving the customers in this method today.

Direct "field-to-store" operations have recently become increasingly widespread.

The interests and the production work of the agricultural and trade enterprises are linked more closely by this method. The consumer gains by this, receiving fresh, high-quality products directly from the truck farms and orchards.

Workers in the nation's fruit and vegetable complex have important tasks ahead of them. They have to improve the level of vegetable, fruit and potato production, improve the product quality and expand the assortment on the basis of existing experience. In 1985 it is planned to procure 7 percent more potatoes, 5 percent more vegetables, 16 percent more fruits and berries, and 12 percent more grapes than the anticipated quantities for this year. It is planned to increase the output of canned fruits and vegetables to 10 billion standard cans.

The effectiveness of the fruit and vegetable industry unquestionably depends in great part upon the performance of a number of branches of the nation's agroindustrial complex. The problem of providing the fruit and vegetable industry with the necessary system of machinery and implements for the comprehensive introduction of industrial technologies for cultivating and harvesting the crops must be resolved as rapidly as possible.

Problems pertaining to the transportation of fruits and vegetables have not been fully resolved. We must significantly reduce the time required to deliver them and use modern transport equipment making it possible to better preserve the product.

A great deal will have to be done to improve the storage plant: building modern fruit and vegetable bases and modernizing existing ones, and outfitting them with mechanized lines for grading and additional processing of the products and with hoisting and transporting equipment.

The task of considerably increasing industrial processing volumes, expanding the assortment, increasing the output of quick-frozen products, dried fruits and products made of potatoes, and extensively adopting waste-free technology has been set for the near future. This also requires considerable modernization of the enterprises, a build-up of their capacities and the installation of modern production lines.

In order to provide the population with quality products and high-caliber service, we must devote greater attention to development of the trade network of specialized stores and to the delivery of technical trade equipment to the stores.

All of these problems can be completely resolved only with active and concerned participation on the part of a number of ministries, departments, planning organizations, industrial enterprises and local soviet bodies.

The system's workers are filled with resolve to perform the assigned tasks for improving the population's supply of fruits and vegetables by utilizing the full potential of the complex.

11499

CSO: 1824/63

FORESTRY AND TIMBER

FORESTRY, TIMBER 9-MONTH PLAN FULFILLMENT TOTALS REVIEWED

Collegium Considers Results

Moscow LESNAYA PROMYSHLENNOST' in Russian 20 Oct 84 p 2

[Text] The board of the USSR Gosleskhoz [State Committee for Forestry] has considered the results of the fulfillment of the state plan and budget for 9 months of this year.

It was noted that forestry enterprises and organizations have provided for the fulfillment of the main indicators of the plan and the socialist commitments that were adopted for forestry, the production of industrial products, the procurement and delivery of food products from trees and timber feeds, and the development of science and technology.

Trees have been planted and transplanted on an area of 848,700 hectares, and anti-erosion plantings and field protection strips have been created on 107,200 hectares. Planning assignments have been overfulfilled for forestation and reinforcing sandy areas on pastureland in desert and semidesert regions and for the introduction of forest purification systems. The young trees have been cared for in keeping with the plan, and 700,000 cubic meters of timber in addition to the plan have been obtained from maintenance fillings.

The volume of sales of industrial products has increased by 1.6 percent as compared to last year. We have shipped 395,300 cubic meters of timber in excess of the plan. The production of goods for cultural and domestic purposes and household use has increased by 9 percent as compared to last year. Planning assignments have been overfulfilled for the production of timber materials, sets of wooden boxes for fruits and vegetables, and vitamin meal made of the green parts of trees. The plan for the introduction of the overall area of dwelling space has been fulfilled. We have provided for the fulfillment of socialist commitments for increasing labor productivity and reducing production costs.

Still, the enterprises and organizations of the branch have had arrears in the fulfillment of the plan in terms of a number of indicators, and they have not fully provided for utilizing reserves within the industry for further development of production.

Timber industry enterprises of the Azerbaijan SSR have not fulfilled the plan for planting and transplanting trees or creating field protection forest strips, the Armenian SSR--for creating plantings in ravines, gullies, sandy soil and other unsuitable areas, the RSFSR--for procurement of seeds of coniferous breeds, for draining forest areas and for construction of logging roads.

The plan for the shipment of wood and round timber materials was not fulfilled by the Pskov, Kalinin or Smolensk forestry administrations; for producing timber materials for truck and car construction--by the RSFSR Minleskhov [Ministry of the Forestry Industry]; wooden box kits--the Latvian SSR Minleskhovlesprom [Ministry of the Forestry and Timber Industry] and the RSFSR Minleskhov; and staves for whiskey barrels--the Latvian SSR Minleskhovlesprom and the RSFSR Minleskhov.

There are arrears in the production of vitamin meal made of greenery from trees by the forestry ministries of the Belorussian and Kazakh SSRs, and in extracting soft resin by the forestry ministries of the RSFSR, the Ukrainian and Kazakh SSRs, and the Latvian SSR Minleskhovlesprom.

The plan for the sale of industrial products was not fulfilled by enterprises of the Latvian SSR Minleskhovlesprom, the Kurgana Forestry Administration of the RSFSR, the Belorussian SSR Ministry of Forestry Management, and the Aktyubinsk Forestry Administration of the Kazakh SSR--a total of 164 enterprises. They failed to deliver 8,176,000 rubles' worth of products to the national economy.

Socialist commitments for increasing labor productivity were not fulfilled by the Karelian ASSR Ministry of Forestry, or the Kuybyshev, Altay, Krasnoyarsk, Maritime and Magadan forestry administrations, and commitments for reducing production costs--by the Latvian SSR Minleskhovlesprom, the Moldavian SSR Minleskhov and about 300 enterprises of the RSFSR Minleskhov.

The board of the USSR Gosleskhov has made it incumbent on the forestry ministries of the union republics, the chairmen of union republic state forestry committees, and managers of forestry institutions and organizations to comprehensively analyze the results of the fulfillment of planned assignments and socialist commitments for 9 months of this year, to make up for arrears that have formed in the fulfillment of the plan for forestry work, the output of forestry products and capital construction, and to provide for fulfillment and overfulfillment of planned assignments and counterplans and socialist commitments adopted by the labor collectives, mainly for an above-plan increase in labor productivity of 1 percent and a reduction of production costs of 0.5 percent.

Reasons for Underfulfillment Examined

Moscow LESNAYA PROMYSHLENNOST' in Russian 20 Oct 84 p 1

[Text] At the end of the year, a very great deal depends on unconditional fulfillment of plans for the delivery of products. Now it is necessary to do

everything possible to eliminate the arrears that have been formed since the beginning of the year: according to the results of 9 months, the national economy failed to receive more than 11 million cubic meters of commercial timber. Special alarm is caused by the fact that we have failed to fulfill the plan for delivery lumber materials, mine pit props, veneers, chip board slabs and sleepers, that is, the assortments for which there is an increased demand. As a result, many collectives of builders, miners, railroad workers and wood processors ended up in difficult conditions. "The underfulfillment by the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood Processing Industry of plans for the delivery of timber materials," it says in the decree of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers concerning improvement of the utilization of timber raw material resources, "has become a serious impediment to the development of a number of branches of the national economy."

One of the main reasons for the arrears are the low rates of separation of the timber. But it is not only a problem of unsatisfactory organization of labor on the bucking lines, of idle time of equipment or a shortage of spare parts. In a number of places they have not yet recognized the importance of psychological changes and they are trying to achieve the volume indicators while bypassing the plan for the products list. Thus they ignore the interests of the consumers and violate the conditions of the agreements with them. In Tomlesprom, for example, they were very late in informing the enterprises of the assortment plans for production and deliveries and they arbitrarily changed the diameter of the pit props that are sent to the miners.

The failures are largely explained by the inadequate attention to the experience of the leading collectives as well. Why, for instance, are the consumers satisfied with the work of the Vil'nyus furniture combine and the Belka match factory? Primarily because they are constantly concerned about the interests of the clients, questions of deliveries are always at the center of the attention of administration, party and trade union organizations, and the work of the legal and complaint-judicial services is well-arranged.

There are many examples of a businesslike approach to the matter. Therefore it is necessary to generalize the experience of the best enterprises and to disseminate it actively in all of our branches. The delivery plan should really become the law. Its fulfillment within the established deadlines should be taken into account as a most important indicator when summing up the results of the competition.

But the reliability of deliveries depends not only on those who dispatch the products, but also on the recipients. This year, for example, procurement workers of Tyumen'lesprom were placed in a difficult situation: for various reasons, several enterprises refused delivery of hydrolyzed raw material. Where were they to send these 60,000 cubic meters? It would be difficult for the Tyumen workers to solve such problems in the middle of the year, not to mention at the end of the year. And it was necessary to charge these overstocks to the managers of the Astrakhan, Tavda and Ivdel hydrolysis plants. The Tyumen workers themselves should have utilized this reserve for fulfillment of the delivery plan more skillfully by replacing certain kinds of products with others.

A most important condition for increasing the reliability of deliveries is solid business cooperation among our enterprises and sales and transportation organizations. In this respect the aforementioned decree of the party and government concerning improvement of the utilization of timber raw material resources is a clear-cut program of action. It directs the associated workers toward eliminating shipments that cross paths and superlong distance shipments, introducing efficient routes for transporting timber cargoes, and improving the system of assigning consumers to suppliers. Taking into account the hard work of the steel main lines, there is to be an increase in the proportion of water transportation in the delivery of timber and paper. Expansion of the existing timber bases of the consumers and construction of new ones will also contribute greatly to the stabilization of deliveries.

The most rapid implementation of these measures is the command of time. For if the consumers do not have large bases with well-developed receiving equipment, this impedes the introduction of the progressive method of shipment of tree-length logs. What is happening, for example, in Arkhangelsk Oblast? The wood floaters here are actively renovating the raft areas, expanding them, and forming rafts of round timber. But many sawmilling and woodworking combines of the oblast are not ready for receiving these rafts. And up until late in the autumn in the region of Arkhangelsk alone, floating on the waves of the northern Dvina were 136 cubic meters of sawmill material, 15,000 cubic meters of tree-length logs and 38,000 cubic meters of cut logs, even though all this timber has a destination and is critically needed by woodworkers of the oblast.

The present policy for claiming damages caused by interruptions in deliveries and violations of commitments is in need of improvement. It is no secret that these losses are still being compensated for at the expense of the enterprises, and not out of the pockets of the negligent, irresponsible managers. It is necessary to wage a struggle against those who love the easy life and strive not to do their work, but to make a living some other way, and frequently by deceiving the state. The strictest punitive measures should be given, for example, to certain workers of Krasnoyarsklesoekstort. For a long period of time they have had an extremely "original" way of fulfilling the plan for deliveries of consumer goods: they have documented sawmill wastes as semimanufactured products for the frames of garden cottages. When they reported "fulfillment," naturally, they received bonuses, and the consumers were left out in the cold.

The month of October has turned up on the calendar. Contractual commitments for 1985 are being developed now. Here it is very important to analyze again and again the capabilities of each enterprise and its consumers, and to provide for correct issuance of orders by Soyuzglavles agencies and to make sure that they correspond to the delivery plans, the resources and the shipment plans. It is necessary to derive lessons from our failures and to do everything possible so that the enterprises of the USSR Minlesbumprom [Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry] will become the most reliable of suppliers. Successful fulfillment of contractual commitments for this year and the five-year plan as a whole is a matter of honor for all workers in our branches.

Timber Industry Performance Criticized

Moscow LESNAYA PROMYSHLENNOST' in Russian 30 Oct 84 p 1

[Excerpt] On the whole, the USSR Minlesbumprom has fulfilled the plan for 9 months of this year for the sale of products, the volume of production, the increase in labor productivity, profit, the shipment of timber, the extraction of soft resin, and the production of paper, furniture, matches and consumer goods. It has also provided for the fulfillment of the main planning indicators for the USSR Gosleskhov.

But we should not be deluded by what we have achieved and give ourselves over to placid complacency. The timber industry, the pulp and paper, veneer, slab and timber chemical industry, and the forestry builders are greatly in debt to the state. Because of serious errors in their economic activity many associations, enterprises, businesses and construction projects are working beneath their capabilities. They are not fulfilling production plans, and they are failing to carry out assignments for deliveries, in above-plan increase in labor productivity of 1 percent, in additional reduction of production costs of 0.5 percent, and economy on fuel, electric energy and other material resources. In some places, they have even forgotten about the commitments they made at the beginning of the year to work rhythmically and without interruption.

As a result, during the past three quarters the USSR Minlesbumprom has not fulfilled assignments for the production of commercial timber, round timber materials, industrial chips, milling materials, pulp, cardboard, slab, veneer or plant-manufactured wooden buildings or for other important indicators. One of the main reasons is that a number of managers of main boards and production administrations of the branch staff and the all-union associations have slackened up on their organizational activity and reduced the demands they make on the associations and enterprises under their jurisdiction for strict observance of state discipline and fulfillment of established assignments.

The plan for the volume of products sold is being fulfilled extremely unsatisfactorily by the Glavvostlesprom (Comrade Aleksandrov), the all-union Soyuzmebel' associations (Comrade Fedorov), Soyuzfanspichprom (Comrade Smirnov) and Soyuzplitprom (Acting Director Comrade Chagin). The Soyuztsellyuloza VPO [All-Union Production Association] (Comrade Zhiganov) and Soyuzbumizdeliya (Comrade Tupitsyn) are continuing to operate on a low level. While things are generally going well with the shipment of timber, as before, assignments are not being fulfilled by the Arkhangel'sklesprom VPO (Comrade Plokhov) and the Permlesprom VPO (Comrade Kurbash). These managers have been criticized repeatedly at meetings of the board of the ministry. Each time they have announced that they will take additional measures in order to rectify the state of affairs. But, as the operations figures for October show, such assurances were not justified in practice.

Siblesstroy (Comrade Lukashov), Soyuzlesstroy (Comrade Vysotskiy) and Dal'lesstroy (Comrade Yaitskiy) regularly fail to provide for the planned start-up of facilities. There is an unjustifiable delay in the construction of a start-up project which is especially important for the branch--the sawmilling production for the Ust-Ilimsk sawmilling and wood-processing combine.

Special alarm is caused by the failure to meet contractual commitments and the shortage in the deliveries of products in physical quantities. Every second enterprise is failing to meet these commitments, and in the USSR Minlesbumprom as a whole the delivery plan has been fulfilled by only 96 percent. We are also alarmed by manifestations of a narrow departmental approach and local chauvinism, where intrabrand and regional interests are placed above state interests. Thus in spite of the fact that the branch has considerably underfilled the plan for the production of commercial timber and for deliveries of this to its associates in the given assortments, the plan for the delivery of balances to its own pulp and paper industries has been overfulfilled. The Vologda and Krasnoyarsk timber procurement workers are trying primarily to satisfy the needs of local consumers of timber, and are failing to fulfill orders from other oblasts and krays.

The branch's failure to meet contractual commitments disturbs the balance of the work of other branches in the national economy. One should not forget that the plan of contractual commitments is the law. The indicator of its fulfillment for the entire products list and by the established deadlines should be regarded as a major item when summing up the results of socialist competition. Here the first commandment in the branch should be the rule: first dispatch products to associated workers under agreements and orders and then provide for intrabrand deliveries.

More attention should be devoted to the struggle for increasing labor productivity and improving the rhythm of the operation of the entire timber conveyor. In certain enterprises and businesses there are still large losses of working time, they are not introducing the collective contract and brigade forms of labor actively enough, and they are slow in eliminating manual operations.

Now, during the course of the final quarter of the year, it is especially important for economic leaders and party and trade union organizations to draw correct, self-critical conclusions from the mistakes that have been made and to direct all labor collectives toward shock work with a full return from efforts and toward overcoming the shortcomings. The discomfiting results of September should cause managers of all ranks to analyze in an efficient and businesslike way the reasons for the arrears and to take decisive measures to bring those who are behind out of the hole. Our concern about the fate for the plan of the year and the five-year plan should not leave us for a minute. This is made incumbent upon us by the instructions of the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade K. U. Chernenko, which are contained in his speech at the plenum of the CPSU Central Committee: "High rates and effectiveness of production and good quality of items--all this should be a mandatory rule for workers in each branch and each enterprise and, I would say, the norm for each worker. And there can be no markdowns here!"

There is still time. Much can be rectified before the end of the year and the end of the five-year plan if we begin with all possible energy and persistence to establish order, to search for reserves, to increase organization and strengthen planning and production discipline in all areas, especially those that are in arrears.

11772

CSO: 1824/90

LAND RECLAMATION AND WATER RESOURCES

ROLE OF LAND RECLAMATION IN BELORUSSIAN AGRICULTURE

Official Discusses Reclamation, Productivity

Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 46, Nov 84 P 5

/Article by Yu.M. Khusainov, 1st deputy chairman of the Belorussian SSR Council of Ministers: "Raising the Productivity of a Hectare"/

/Text/ The party, soviet and economic organs and all workers attached to the republic's agroindustrial complex are today concentrating their attention on the materials of the October Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, which examined the key and most important problems concerned with the political, economic and social life of our country. The speech by Comrade K.U. Chernenko and all work by the Plenum provided a new and convincing example of a high principled and far-seeing approach for solving the great and complicated tasks associated with the further development of agricultural production. The chief task is to accomplish this in a steady manner. And the long-term program for land reclamation and for raising the effectiveness of use of reclaimed lands constitutes a large-scale contribution towards carrying out this plan.

Land reclamation is of paramount importance to Belorussia. The following data convincingly underscores the extent of the work already carried out. Within the republic, 2.7 million hectares of swampland and waterlogged land have been drained and soil improvement work carried out on an area of 3.6 million hectares. Nine aquicultural complexes have been created. Drainage and irrigation systems have been built having a guaranteed delivery of water for 82,000 hectares and for 515,000 hectares -- drainage and irrigation systems which make it possible to use the local runoff of territorial canals and adjoining water intakes.

A Chief Reserve -- Leading Experience

On leading farms, where land reclamation has been carried out on an all-round basis, modern drainage and irrigation systems have been built, the required agricultural practices are being observed and stable and high yields of grain, row and forage crops are being obtained.

One such leading farm is the Zarya Kommunizma Kolkhoz in Ivanovskiy Rayon in Brest Oblast. Here all of the haying and pasture lands have been improved.

Roughly 1,881 hectares of land at the kolkhoz have been drained, with earthenware drainage being employed on more than 850 hectares. In addition, there are approximately 500 hectares of irrigated land.

Up to 40 and more quintals of grain crops and 500 quintals of food roots and silage corn are being obtained from the reclaimed lands. Each hectare of irrigated pasture land furnishes 75-80 quintals of feed units. The farm's profitability is 30 percent.

When the discussion shifts to land reclamation and the great transformational role it plays, we cite Pinskiy Rayon as an example -- the center of the Belorussian forest district -- and the Osnezhitskiy Kolkhoz in particular. This farm has become a standard with regard to the utilization of land. During the years of the past five-year plan, 50 quintals of grain per hectare were already being obtained here. For having achieved eminent successes, the farm was awarded the Order of Lenin and the title of Hero of Socialist Labor was conferred upon six of its workers. The kolkhoz chairman, Vladimir Antonovich Ral'ko, was awarded this title for the second time.

However, in evaluating the work carried out from the standpoint of the high degree of exactingness demanded by the October Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the instructions handed down by Comrade K.U. Chernenko, we still note many shortcomings taking place in the work concerned with the use of reclaimed lands. The productivity of these lands, especially that of meadows and pastures, is quite often still quite low and the yields being obtained on the farms are not reaching the planned levels. The average annual productivity of arable lands is 34 quintals of feed units and for haying and pasture lands -- only 16.5 quintals.

The reclaimed lands were placed in operation in the absence of two-way control over the soil moisture content and the construction rates for reservoirs were low. As a result, approximately 1 million hectares of drained land throughout the republic do not have moistening systems and thus cannot ensure the planned yields. Their land reclamation network is in radical need of modernization.

In recent years, an average of 204 kilograms of mineral fertilizer has been applied per hectare and this is considerably lower than the optimum norms. The amount applied to a hectare of haying or pasture land was less by a factor of 3 than that applied to a hectare of reclaimed arable land. The effectiveness of the mineral fertilizer is decreasing and there is a shortage or a complete absence of certain microelements.

Only limited amounts of specialized and powerful items of equipment with a low specific pressure are available for the deep loosening of the soil, for improving the cultivated status of haying and pasture lands, for grassing and regrassing work, for applying organic and mineral fertilizers and, as well, there is a shortage of brush cutters and stump pullers.

Much Remains To Be Done

Measures are being undertaken throughout the republic which will make it possible to raise land reclamation operations to a new level from the standpoint

of quality and to make better use of its potential for increasing the production of agricultural products and raising the stability of farming. Accumulated experience, the existing production base and the availability of stable cadres of land reclamation specialists are making it possible to achieve further development for this branch.

We are preparing a "Branch Program for the Development of Land Reclamation and Water Management Up To the Year 2000," which outlines the optimum volumes for land reclamation and the additional production of agricultural products and also nature preservation measures. The mastering of this program will make it possible to achieve an increase in grain alone of more than 1 million tons and an increase in overall field crop husbandry output (according to our computations) on the order of 3.3 million tons of feed units. This is 17-18 percent of the average annual amount of feed being produced at the present time on all lands in Belorussia and 72 percent of the output being obtained from reclaimed lands. The farms will receive roughly 200 million rubles worth of additional profit annually.

An increase in the mutual responsibility for the final results of the planning, construction, operations and administrative organizations will assist in achieving a successful solution for the assigned task. Their direct obligation -- to ensure all-round construction on the newly mastered lands, including agricultural construction and the building of roads, children's institutes and installations of a cultural and domestic nature. Herein lies the key to raising the effectiveness of use of reclaimed lands.

We must intensify the participation of youth in shock reclamation construction projects and make greater use of komsomol and student construction brigades.

Strengthening the Economies of Backward Farms

At the present time, a search is underway at each kolkhoz and sovkhoz for the means required for further intensifying the production volumes for agricultural output. Priority attention has been given to strengthening the economies of low-profitability and unprofitable kolkhozes and sovkhozes. On all such farms, plans have been developed for organizational-technical measures aimed at raising production efficiency, lowering production costs and improving the social, working and living conditions of the agricultural workers. Such plans have been developed and approved by the RAPO /rayon agroindustrial association/ councils. A control system has been established for use in carrying out the planned measures. Each month the manner in which these measures are carried out is analyzed and examined by the farms themselves, with the participation of specialists from the rayon agricultural administration. Each quarter the RAPO councils and the oblAPO /oblast agroindustrial association/ examine the operational results of this group of farms and they define the degree of influence to be exerted by all partners in the agroindustrial complex with regard to improving both their economies and their production indicators. Special control is being exercised over the more economically weak farms by the councils of oblast agroindustrial associations, the Ministry of Agriculture and other departments of the republic's agroindustrial complex.

Today it is impossible to carry out successful production operations in the absence of improvements in the organization of economic work at the kolkhozes

and sovkhoses and particularly in the absence of improvements in internal cost accounting.

However, it must be confessed that such efforts at some kolkhoses and sovkhoses are limited to merely issuing the cost accounting tasks. The final results are not always coordinated with the wages. By no means are material incentives being employed in all areas for savings realized in the direct expenditures in field crop husbandry and animal husbandry. It often happens that material awards for work collectives are not influenced whatsoever by whether or not there was a savings or over-expenditure of funds or whether expenditures were kept within the planned limits.

The functions of economic analysis bureaus include attracting more specialists, leading collectives and sovkhos workers to participating in economic work, carrying out improvements in this work and directing more attention to internal cost accounting. These bureaus are not meant to replace the kolkhoz or sovkhos administrations, the leaders of subunits or the functions of the chief specialists of branches, but rather their activities are directed towards furnishing the above with assistance in organizing production operations.

Conversion To a Contract

The entire essence of economic work in agriculture consists of creating conditions which will ensure an increase in production and improvements in the quality of products, with minimal expenditures for the production of these products. This is promoted to a large degree by the use of collective contracts.

The ranks of those following the example set by leading collectives, which have mastered this progressive form for labor and wages, are increasing in number. Compared to 1982 when there were 225 contractual subunits in field crop husbandry and 25 in animal husbandry, last year the figures for these two branches were 3,630 and 615 respectively. They worked 23.4 percent of the arable land. And the results were as follows. The grain yields for brigades and teams which worked on a contractual basis turned out to be higher by 8 percent, potatoes -- by 5.4 percent and flax fiber -- by 3.6 percent, than the average for kolkhoses and sovkhoses throughout the republic.

This year, 90 percent of the farms have contractual brigades in farming and they are responsible for almost one half of the arable land. More than 3,000 brigades and teams are operating on the basis of collective contracts in animal husbandry.

The facts indicate that successful work by contractual cost accounting collectives is largely dependent upon the farm leaders and specialists and workers attached to the economic service.

It bears mentioning that on a number of farms the introduction of a collective contract is being carried out with violations of its basic principles. At times, the labor collectives have not been provided with the required operational-administrative independence and transfers of personnel and equipment to other sectors of production have been tolerated. A strict approach has not been employed in all areas when developing the planned tasks and organizing primary and bookkeeping accounting.

In discussing improvements in the economic work of enterprises and organizations of the agroindustrial complex, mention should be made of the important role played in this regard by the rayon and oblast agroindustrial associations. The majority of the RAPO's are successfully solving the problems concerned with improving economic control, they are carrying out a complex of measures aimed at raising the administrative independence and initiative of the kolkhozes and sovkhozes, they are coordinating the work of all APK /agroindustrial complex/ enterprises and organizations and they are channeling these activities towards achieving high final results.

At the same time, substantial shortcomings are being noted in the work of many RAPO's. In some areas, efficient interaction has still not been organized between the rayon and oblast associations. Not all of the RAPO's are making full use of the authority granted to them and the normative documents which regulate their activities have not been adequately studied.

The tasks resulting from the decisions handed down during the October (1984) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee require the labor collectives to concentrate their efforts on the unconditional fulfillment of the plans and socialist obligations of the current year and the five-year plan as a whole, on the organized completion of the agricultural year and on the successful wintering of the livestock and poultry.

Progress, Problems of Development

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 May 84 pp 1,3

/Article by V. Posokhov and A. Simurov, Belorussian SSR: "There, Where the Land Reclamation Specialists Passed"/

/Excerpt/ Today land improvement work is being carried out in practically all areas of Belorussia. For agriculture, 2.4 million hectares have been drained -- one half of the tracts considered to be suitable for land reclamation purposes. Irrigation systems have been built for 143,000 hectares. Roughly 570 ponds and reservoirs have been created. Eleven thousand kilometers of new roads stretch out over the lands that have been developed. Over the past 13 years alone, more than 4 billion rubles worth of state capital investments have been allocated for carrying out land reclamation work in the republic. At the present time, the value of the systems that have been placed in operation amounts to 2 billion rubles.

Restored fields constitute a tremendous resource. The farmers are under an obligation to manage them in an efficient manner, to pay off the expenditures involved in a rapid manner and to increase their contribution towards carrying out the country's Food Program. The transformed lands are presently furnishing approximately 30 percent of the republic's field crop husbandry output, including almost two thirds of the feed. In many areas these improved fields have become genuine crop storehouses. For example, the farms in Korelichskiy Rayon are obtaining from these fields 35-40 quintals of grain and more than 220 quintals of potatoes per hectare.

In raising the return from restored lands, much depends upon the rayon agroindustrial associations. The RAPO /rayon agroindustrial association/

councils exercise control over the man-made fields. In Soligorskiy Rayon in Minsk Oblast, thought was given to the question: what is preventing rapid growth in the yields being obtained from improved lands? It turned out that one of the chief reasons for this was shortcomings in the organization of repair work on the systems. At times some farm leaders spare money for this purpose, while others generally are unable to make the funds available. When payments were made for this purpose, quite often they were not sufficient for carrying out the needed work. Thus the networks fell into a neglected state. The decision was made to concentrate the funds in the RAPO's. Each year this furnishes approximately 390,000 rubles. They are not being dispersed as they were in the past. An association's council makes the decision as to where the work is to be carried out first of all.

The specialists are devoting thought to the methods for achieving a closer link between science and practical work. Scientists attached to the Polessk Scientific Land Reclamation Station are devoting a great amount of attention to the efficient use of the restored lands. The RAPO is making funds available for awarding bonuses to those station workers who achieve the planned yields and output production levels on the farms assigned to their care. Life is confronting the scientists with many problems. One of the most important -- how to increase the production of grain on reclaimed lands and how to introduce into operations soil-protective farming systems.

Nevertheless, the means for achieving a high productivity for a restored hectare are not being found in all areas. Quite often the schedules for mastering the lands are being dragged out and the resources are not producing the proper return. Such was the case with the XXIV S"yezd KPSS Sovkhoz in Pinskiy Rayon. Sixteen million rubles were invested in the creation of its fixed capital and a considerable portion of this sum was used for the reclamation of land. It appears that the time is at hand for reaping the fruits of this great work. However, owing to various managerial problems the increase in the production of goods and the economic indicators are lower than those called for in the schedule for developing the land. For example, last year the actual expenditures for field crop husbandry operations exceeded the planned expenditures by almost 400,000 rubles, or by a factor of 1.5.

"After the land has been turned over and the sovkhos introduced into operations on the whole" explained the manager of the Pinsk municipal office of Gosbank, M. Sapozhnikov, "we constantly analyze the results of its work. And what was learned? On the farm they still had not learned how to make the best use of their production capabilities. Very little concern was displayed for the return from the investments. We reported our conclusions to the rayon organs so that the necessary measures could be taken."

What steps were taken by the RAPO? It simply stated that the sovkhos had "become bankrupt" because of its potato production. At this point, the decision was made to release it from having to cultivate this crop. And what about measures which could have affected the quality of the collective's work, the organization of labor and its effectiveness? He was unable to make any definite statement in this regard.

These facts concerning poor knowledge of the economics of reclaimed lands and the use of a superficial approach in handling the problems of restored lands

are not singular in nature. Quite often the yields obtained from these lands are not considered separately. In a number of rayon agroindustrial associations they still are not following the rule of constantly measuring expenditures against the return.

For example, let us take Verkhnedvinskiy Rayon in Vitebsk Oblast. Here 20 million rubles have been invested in land reclamation construction and approximately 16,000 hectares taxed. The fertility of the soils has been raised. However, over the past 10 years there has been almost no increase in the grain yields. Many restored fields, even during very favorable years, are not producing the planned yields. The reasons are apparent: the tending of the networks is poorly organized, true responsibility for this work has not been established and many sectors have become choked with weeds. For the republic as a whole, the output being obtained from reclaimed lands is approximately 30 percent less than what is expected. This then is what happens when work with the transformed fields is neglected.

At times, the low productivity of such land is the direct result of the reclamation work having been carried out in a low quality manner. Such examples are not rare. As a result of various problems, hundreds of improved hectares throughout the republic are not being utilized properly.

Over the past few decades, the transformation of land in the republic has been carried out mainly on new tracts. This made it possible to place in operation vast areas which had not been used previously. But as noted during the All-Union Economic Conference on Problems of the Agroindustrial Complex, a great amount of attention must be given to the modernization of existing systems when carrying out reclamation work.

We are traveling over the fields of the Kolkhoz imeni Frunze in Luninetskiy Rayon. One senses that a great amount of labor was invested in improving them. However, not all of the work was carried out with a guarantee. It is apparent even to a non-specialist that during damp weather, and such weather is not a rarity here, the systems in a number of areas would become "flooded."

"The land reclamation specialists should be made to return to these sectors in order to carry out modernization work here" stated the kolkhoz chairman P. Mikitchuk.

His colleague -- the chairman of the Put' K Kommunizmu Kolkhoz A. Verenich -- has his own problems.

"The situation is quite the opposite at the present time as we are suffering from a shortage of moisture" he commented, "The system was built long ago and does not hold water very well."

The problem concerning the modernization of improved tracts was also raised by the leaders of other farms in Luninetskiy Rayon. In all, approximately 40,000 hectares must be restored repeatedly here. According to estimates by specialists, this measure alone would enable the rayon to increase its production of field and farm products by 30 percent.

"Our main administration" stated the chief of Glavpoles'yevodstroy, A. Zelenovskiy, "is expanding the scale of the system modernization work. During this present five-year plan, we will carry out such work on 100,000 hectares. The plans are being overfulfilled. However, certain problems remain. Indeed, modernization is not always called for because the networks have become obsolete. It sometimes happens that they prematurely being to furnish less. There are various reasons for this -- either there was an oversight in the plan or in relief the fields underwent changes. The problem must be quickly corrected. But the money is not forthcoming for such repair work. The agroindustrial associations must give some thought as to how best to finance this work."

The republic's Ministry of Agriculture must play a more active role in the problem of modernization. Some of its specialists are continuing to assign a priority to the introduction of new lands into operations and are displaying little concern to restoring order to already active lands. A number of aquicultural subunits have not reorganized taking into account the new requirements.

"The republic's farmers must strive to obtain everything possible from an improved hectare" stated the head of the Department of Agriculture and the Food Industry of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belorussia A. Yanovich, "The party organizations are devoting very little effort to ensuring that work carried out on the man-made lands produces a better return. We are orienting the communists towards the problems concerned with return and the economy."

The management of reclaimed lands is not an easy task. Those individuals are wrong who believe that a storehouse of crops opens up automatically when such lands are placed in operation. No, the key must still be turned. The field crop growers of Belorussia must display a great amount of diligence in order to ensure that each newly developed hectare fully justifies the designation of "restored."

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